

Hafa Adai!

Cardinal sent to Guam to investigate sex abuse claims. **PAGE 3**  
Underwater mapping reveals evolution of Johnston Atoll. **PAGE 17**

# Saipan Tribune

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75¢

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

From left, Jerrold Calvo, Ray "Boss" Alvarez, Jay Igisaiar, Marc Dutilloy, Ron Acfalle (Ulita, Guam) and Pete Perez.



## Proa builders return from NZ

The 500 Sails staff who left for New Zealand on Jan. 19 are returning today, Feb. 17, as *proa* (sailing

canoe) builders.

The five builders—Pete Perez, Ray "Boss" Alvarez, Jay Igisaiar,

Jerrold Calvo, and Ron Acfalle from Guam—built a 26-foot Chamorro *proa* almost to completion in about three weeks.

The *proa* needs finishing touches

that include painting, edging of the hull, and adding a platform to sit on. These finishing touches will be completed here on Saipan.

The resulting prototype allowed

500 Sails staff the opportunity to learn to use a variety of tools and work with state-of-the-art boat building materials under the guidance of

See PROA on Page 4

# GAO seeks to prevent a Puerto Rico

By JON PEREZ  
[jon\\_perez@saipantribune.com](mailto:jon_perez@saipantribune.com)  
REPORTER

The U.S. Government Accountability Office is currently reviewing the CNMI's public debt with the goal of avoiding another Puerto Rico, which is suffering from an ongoing financial crisis since 2005.

## High school mock trial commences

By ERWIN ENCINARES  
[erwin\\_encinares@saipantribune.com](mailto:erwin_encinares@saipantribune.com)  
REPORTER

The CNMI 2017 high school mock trial competition started yesterday at the Guma Hustitia, with several schools arguing over a fictitious case

for the right to represent the CNMI at the nationals in Connecticut this year.

The competition is intended to showcase the students' ability to debate, think, and analyze a case. Marianas High School, Saipan Southern High School, Saipan International

Three other U.S. territories—American Samoa, Guam, and the U.S. Virgin Islands—are also included in the review.

In 2013, the CNMI had a \$354.7-million long-term debt. That amount now stands at \$471,758,182, with \$88,840,077 owed to bonds payable, while claims and other judg-

See GAO on Page 4

School, Grace Christian Academy, Tinian Jr. Sr. High School, and defending champion Mount Carmel School would be competing to represent the CNMI in the Mock Trial Championship in Hartford, Connecticut.

See HIGH SCHOOL on Page 4

## Manglona: Local leaders can lobby for us

By JON PEREZ  
[jon\\_perez@saipantribune.com](mailto:jon_perez@saipantribune.com)  
REPORTER

Sen. Paul A. Manglona (Ind-Rota) opposes the idea of the CNMI hiring a lobbyist in Washington, D.C. to push for the recommendations in the 902 report, saying the CNMI's elected leaders should be enough to present the Commonwealth's concerns to President Donald Trump and other administration officials.

To bolster this position, Man-

glona introduced Senate Joint Resolution 20-1 on Wednesday to ask Trump to honor the 902 report

that was transmitted to congressional leaders last month.

Manglona said the right persons to lobby for the Commonwealth are Gov. Ralph DLG Torres, Delegate Gregorio Killili C. Sablan (Ind-MP), Senate President Arnold I. Palacios (R-Saipan), House Speaker Rafael S. Demapan (R-Saipan), members of the CNMI Legislature,

See MANGLONA on Page 4



Manglona

## INSIDE



### LOCAL

NMC is showcasing the works of the late Barry Wonenberg

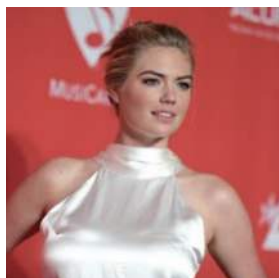
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### BUSINESS

President Donald Trump's nominee for labor secretary abruptly withdraws his nomination.

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### LIFE & STYLE

Kate Upton is so nice she's made the Sports Illustrated swimsuit cover thrice.

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# Local

## SCC to host golf tourney

This year's annual Saipan Chamber of Commerce 2017 Golf Tournament on March 4,

2017, at Lao Lao Bay's west course, aims to bring back some fun to the golf course. Show time is 6am, with a shotgun start at 7am.

A banquet will immediately follow the tournament.

The format is a two-person scramble. The entry fee is \$120/non-member and \$110/Chamber member. Cash prizes include \$800 for first place, \$500 for second place, and \$300 for third place for each of the two categories: Team Gross and Team Double Peoria. There will also be closest-to-the-pin, longest drive, and accurate drive contests.

Triple J Motors offers a hole-in-one prize of a 2017 Mazda 6. Three hole-in-one opportunities of \$5,000 each are offered by Pacifica Insurance, McDonald's of Saipan, and the Chamber's Saipan Young Professionals.

Funds raised will support the Chamber's scholarship program, monthly training seminars, and other community based projects.

Fabulous raffle prizes have been donated and tickets will be available for purchase during the awards banquet. Sponsorships and raffle prizes are currently being collected. Registration forms for players are available for download at [www.saipan-chamber.com](http://www.saipan-chamber.com), at the Chamber office, and Lao Lao Bay Golf Resort. (SCC)



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**VATICAN CITY (AP)**—The Vatican has sent Cardinal Raymond Burke to the Pacific island of Guam to investigate an important case alleging sexual abuse, dispatching a seasoned jurist who has clashed repeatedly with Pope Francis for a sensitive mission halfway around the world.

The Vatican's Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith back in October named Burke the presiding judge in its trial of Guam Archbishop Anthony Apuron, who is facing multiple allegations of sex abuse of altar boys in the 1970s, the Vatican press office said Wednesday.

Apuron has denied the claims and has not been criminally charged.

Burke, a Rome-based American, is due to interview a former altar boy in Guam on Thursday who says he was sexually abused by Apuron, the *Pacific Daily News* reported.

Such special missions are not uncommon for cardinals, and interviews with witnesses are a key part of any canon-

# Cardinal sent to Guam to investigate sex abuse claims

cial trial.

Survivors of clerical abuse, though, have long criticized Burke's record as an archbishop in the U.S. in handling cases of abusive priests. Burke has said every act of abuse by clergy is a "grave evil." But he has also blamed gay clergy for the church's sexual abuse crisis, saying priests "who were feminized and confused about their own sexual identity" were the ones who molested children.

"Burke hasn't been open about clergy abuse in the past," Terence McKiernan, president of BishopAccountability.org, an online resource about priestly sex abuse, said in an email.

McKiernan said Burke failed to release lists of accused clerics when he was with two American dioceses, and released data from one that seemed to understate the problem. He also said Burke was reluctant "to compensate victims

or provide for their care."

Burke, a top canon lawyer, had headed the Vatican's high court until 2014, when Francis removed him and named him patron of the Knights of Malta religious order. Francis recently sidelined Burke from that position after Burke was involved in the problematic ouster of a senior knight.

Burke's defense of church doctrine has made him a hero to conservative and tradi-

tionalist Catholics upset with Francis' mercy-over-morals priorities. He is one of four cardinals who has asked Francis to clarify his controversial opening to divorced and civilly remarried Catholics.

David Lujan, an attorney for Roland Sondia, the former altar boy on Guam, confirmed his client will meet with Vatican officials visiting for Apuron's canonical trial.

Lujan said he will decide after the meeting whether Sondia will testify.

Sondia, now an adult, has publicly accused Apuron of molesting him when he was 15.

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## MLSC: Thousands of dollars worth of property stolen, damaged in fire

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**  
[ferdie\\_delatorre@saipantribune.com](mailto:ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com)  
REPORTER

Thousands of dollars worth of property were stolen and damaged during the burglary and fire at the office of Micronesian Legal Services Corp. on Capital Hill on Monday but no sensitive or confidential information was compromised, according to MLSC executive director Lee Pliscou.

Pliscou told *Saipan Tribune* that no data or files were lost.

"Although we have a lot of cleanup, repair, and replacement to do, we are already back to work," Pliscou said.

He said the affected office will be closed in the two weeks, but the MLSC client service office in Chalan Piao behind Subway "remains open for business as usual."

MLSC offers free legal assistance to low income people throughout Micronesia.

Pliscou said the main item stolen was a portable generator and 220/110 transformer, which they purchased brand new for \$1,800 after Typhoon Soudelor in August 2015.

A few other items were stolen and MLSC personnel are currently working on a complete inventory of missing and damaged items.

Pliscou said they will have a preliminary list by the end of the day today, Friday.

He said a lot of items were damaged by fire and smoke.

Some of the electrical and electronic items need to be tested next week.

Pliscou expects the list of stolen and damaged items to include a number of computers and peripherals, and furniture.

"Certainly many thousands

of dollars," he said.

He assured, though, that this won't have any significant effect on their client services or mission.

The incident, Pliscou said, reminds all of the value of having an updated disaster plan, including making sure data is secured and backed up.

Fortunately, he added, MLSC has a written disaster and business continuity plan, which they review at the beginning of the year.

According to the Department of Fire and Emergency Medical Services, they are trying to determine the incendiary used to set off the fire.

DFEMS spokesman Derek Gersonde said Wednesday that the fire was apparently intended to cover up the burglary and theft.

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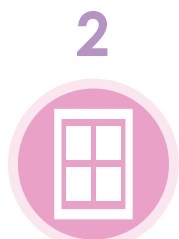
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## IPI reports over \$5.5B in chip volume

Commonwealth Casino Commission executive director Edward Deleon Guerrero reported to members of the board in yesterday's meeting that Imperial Pacific International, Ltd. had recorded \$5.59 billion in rolling chip volume for

the month of January.

"This is the combination of all tables and other gaming in the casino. We [commission] have been monitoring all movements of cash in the casino. We are also looking at every detail and are making sure IPI's pays

its vendors and others that offered them goods and services," said Deleon Guerrero.

IPI is currently operating a temporary casino facility, Best Sunshine Live, at the T Galleria shopping mall. Imperial Pacific Resort Hotel, its flagship integrated resort in the CNMI, is currently being built; its casino

operations is set to open sometime in March this year.

House of Representatives Gaming committee members, headed by Rep. Joseph P. Deleon Guerrero (R-Saipan), and IPI officials were also present in the meeting held at the Joeten-Kiyu Public Library's video teleconference room.

The rolling chip volume is the casino's measurement of the total of all non-negotiable chips that were bet on and lost by VIP and other players. It is also the amount of activity of non-negotiable chips being transacted and played according to its value on the floor. *(Jon Perez)*

## ERRATUM

In the story "USS Lake Champlain crew visits SDA School" it states that A.J. Grant is a sergeant. That is incorrect. His rank is lieutenant. Our apologies for the error.

## GAO

From Page 1

ments stand at \$43,682,326.

There is also an \$11,583,616 debt to component units—the Commonwealth Healthcare Corp., Commonwealth Utilities Corp., Public School System, and the Marianas Public Lands Trust. The CNMI's 2014 fiscal year audit report also reported \$58.7 million in unpaid claims while the government's recorded liability with the Settlement Fund is at \$227,749,160.

Puerto Rico has an outstanding debt of more than \$70 billion, earning it the moniker of being the Greece of North America.

In 2014 the big three of U.S. credit rating agencies—

Fitch, Moody's, and Standard & Poor's—gave Puerto Rico's government a non-investment grade.

The current GAO review is required under Public Law 114-187 or the Puerto Rico Oversight, Management, and Economic Stability Act, or PROMESA, that was signed by former President Barack Obama on June 30, 2016. Puerto Rico owed \$77 billion when Obama signed the law. It established an oversight board to assist Puerto Rico in managing its government finances.

Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan (Ind-MP) said the GAO report would focus on how much each insular government owes and their ability to pay their debt.

"It will be an objective review of the debt situation that

the public in the Marianas and other insular areas can rely on," he said.

Sablan said that early drafts of PROMESA could have generally applied to all U.S. territories but congressional leadership focused the law only on Puerto Rico.

"In drafting PROMESA we had to be very careful to keep out any breach of local self-government enshrined in the Marianas Covenant. And we were successful, I think, at protecting the Covenant."

"We did include the one provision, however, that requires a report to Congress on debt held by insular governments. We want to avoid a situation in which the Marianas or any other insular area faces the kind of fiscal crisis that we see right now in Puerto Rico."

## MANGLONA

From Page 1

and leaders of the CNMI business community.

"I hope our government and its leaders have already learned a lesson in hiring lobbyists. The best lobbyists are our leaders and our people. The issues in the 902 report—CW1, local workforce training, visa waiver, and other immigration issues—the best way to push for our concerns is for our leaders to form a united front and lobby for the changes suggested in the report."

Manglona said that hiring lobbyists could become a problem for the CNMI.

"We don't need lobbyists.

I don't believe in hiring lobbyists since we knew what happened before. They create situations so we could continue hiring them. We also know Trump doesn't like lobbyists. If he heard about that [the CNMI hiring a lobbyist], it might become a problem."

The CW1 program or the CNMI-Only Transitional Nonimmigrant Worker Visa allows foreign guest workers to be employed on a temporary basis. U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services controls the program; it has a numerical cap that would be zeroed out on Dec. 31, 2019.

Torres indicated last month that his administration is thinking of hiring a lobbyist that would help push for the

CNMI's issues and earn support from Congress and leaders of the Trump administration.

His other option is to open a satellite office in Washington, D.C. as a way of having the CNMI heard in the U.S. Capitol. He said that office would be different from the CNMI Delegate's Office, a post that is currently held by Sablan. The satellite office would have the chance to inform and show key officials of the federal government that the CNMI's concerns have a big impact on its economy.

Manglona said the CNMI government spent around \$2 million for a lobbyist during the garment industry crisis and before the federal government took control of CNMI immigration and labor.

"I say no to lobbyists. We should learn our lesson. Our local leaders are the best lobbyists, especially the governor since he stood behind and supported President Trump in the last election. He should be communicating with Trump and his administration. My resolution is to ask President Trump to accept the report that was presented to former President [Barack] Obama."

He said the task now of CNMI leaders is to send a message to congressional leaders and Trump in order for them to act on the recommendations that were presented in the 902 report.

"Our leaders' message should be 'please listen to our concerns in the 902 report.

Please accept it since a lot of time, effort, and research was done with it.'"

Manglona said that Torres could work on arranging a meeting with Trump and other congressional leaders to talk about the CNMI's issues.

"I believe [Trump] would now have the time to listen to us...listen to territories' concerns, especially the CNMI. Now is the time to get our leaders—with 902 members and business community—to figure out a way on how to send our message and how to communicate with Trump. The governor supported Trump, so he is the best person to lead the lobbying. I believe Trump would welcome our governor and our leaders to

the risks it may pose. I'm also looking forward to ideas about what can be done to ensure that the local government can continue to provide essential services to our residents and can avoid the kind of debt crisis that the government of Puerto Rico is still facing."

Early this month, Sablan also met with GAO officials Dr. Emil Friberg and Dr. David Gootnick where he was updated on the fieldwork done by the federal agency's team in the CNMI on the issues related to the minimum wage increase and the foreign guest worker program.

GAO report's expected release is sometime in April and the results would help the ongoing discussions of finding long-term solutions in the CNMI's labor needs.

meet with him."

He said that Trump needs to know the CNMI's situation since it has a unique relationship with the U.S. government, unlike the four other territories.

"Our issues are not that easy for the President to understand because his top priority is immigration and many of the things that we are asking are contrary to what he believes. [Trump] needs to understand that we are in a remote place. Our economy, the conditions, and our surroundings are different from the way it is in the U.S."

"We have a unique relationship and Trump has to completely understand our situation out here. He needs to... have his Cabinet also understand it," said Manglona.

## HIGH SCHOOL

From Page 1

icut in May later this year.

School teams will be facing off in the fictitious case *Kelsey Reed vs. the CNMI*, where Reed is charged with two counts of cyberstalking Jamie Alaxanian through a college campus-sponsored chatroom.

The contestants are expected to choose a side and either prosecute or defend their client.

Teammates Aeyanna Maratita and Grace Zhang said they were both nervous and excited about the mock trial. At the same time, they think it is a good exposure to the way trials are held.

"It's a great opportunity for us to show our court skills,"

said Maratita.

During the coaching period, which lasted a few months, the contestants learned about the significance of certain roles in the courtroom as well as how to examine witnesses, hear testimonies, and learn the rules of the courtroom.

"We owe a lot to our coaches because of what they taught us," said Maratita.

Zhang and Maratita both shared that a career in law may be a possibility.

Minna Ito, of another team, is also excited about the mock trial.

"I am excited and nervous to see how [the trial] plays out against the other school and how far we have come as a team," said Ito.

"I learned a lot about having

teamwork, working together, maintaining cooperation with the team. I have also learned a lot about public speaking, talking to a judge, and making arguments as well," she added.

Ben Byers, law clerk to Justice Perry B. Inos, and coach of the Saipan Southern High School team, said that mock trials improve students' ability to think on their feet and how

to process a lot of information.

"Issues are not black and white. You can read the exact same set of facts in a lot of different ways, which is not necessarily something you can get in a lot of classrooms," said Byers.

Today is the second day of the mock trial competition. A winner is expected to be announced.

## PROA

From Page 1

two experienced builders, Derek Kelsall and Marc Dutilloy.

500 Sails, a non-profit organization committed to restoring the maritime traditions of both the Chamorros and the Carolinians, gets its name from a first-person account in 1565 by Legazpi aboard the *San Pedro* as it approached the Marianas: "We

were no more than two leagues from [the island]...when a great number of these *proas* appeared about us...more than 400 or 500 around the ships..."

The goal is to have 500 *proas*, both Chamorro and Carolinian, in the waters of the Marianas by the year 2030. This *proa* makes five.

500 Sails hopes to make traditional *proas* accessible to the community by using traditional designs, but building with fiber-

glass. This greatly reduces both the cost and the time needed to build an entire *proa*.

The 47-foot *Che'lu* in Guam took over a year to build.

In about three weeks, the 500 Sails builders in New Zealand got the *proa* to the point where it can go in the water.

The decision was made to take the staff to New Zealand because health issues did not allow the master builder to come to Saipan as originally planned,

and repairs to the canoe house (the old legislature building in Susupe) were delayed.

Upon their return and after building the next prototype, applying everything they learned in New Zealand, the 500 Sails builders will begin sharing their knowledge by teaching interested individuals in the community how to build their own *proas*.

500 Sails is planning to build a total of 60 *proas* in the next three years.

To obtain a *proa* at little to no cost, individuals need to participate in the building process and to complete the water safety program, which includes swimming and boating safety components. Dolphin Club Saipan is the swimming program of 500 Sails. The cost of materials may be covered by grant funds.

500 Sails is grateful for the support of its board of directors and advisory board, the

CNMI Department of Land and Natural Resources, Mariana Resort & Spa, the Northern Marianas Humanities Council, the Commonwealth Council for Arts & Culture, and the Social and Economic Development Strategies program of the Administration for Native Americans.

For more information, contact Perez, executive director, at [pperez@500sails.org](mailto:pperez@500sails.org) or follow 500 Sails on Facebook. *(PR)*





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# Public warned of high surf

Based on information received from the National Weather Service in Tiyan, Guam, and compiled at the CNMI Emergency Operations Center, combined seas of 9 to 12 feet and fresh to strong winds will maintain hazardous for operators of small craft the next couple of days. Scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms associated with the shear line will continue over the far southern coastal waters of Guam tonight.

A high surf advisory remains in effect until 6pm Saturday.

Surf will be hazardous at 9 to 11 feet along north fac-

ing reefs through Saturday before gradually decreasing Saturday afternoon.

A small craft advisory remains in effect until 6pm Saturday.

Combined seas of 9 to 12 feet and fresh to strong winds will produce hazardous conditions for operators of small craft. Conditions will remain hazardous through at least Saturday.

Inexperienced mariners, especially those operating smaller vessels, should avoid sailing in these conditions. Avoid venturing out to exposed reef lines and beaches especially along north facing shores as rip currents will be life threatening. **(EOC)**

## Tinian Mayor invites people to Pika Festival

Tinian Mayor Joey Patrick San Nicolas is inviting the public to the 2017 Pika Festival.

“On behalf of the island of Tinian, I invite all of our brothers and sisters in the Commonwealth all the way down to Guam and all throughout Micronesia to the beautiful island of Tinian to annually celebrate the *donne sali*,” said San Nicolas.

The annual Hot Pepper Festival, or Pika Festival, is going to be held at the Tachogna Beach from tomorrow until Sunday, from 2pm to 11pm.

Highlights of the festival are the food, both spicy and non-spicy, island-style entertainment, games, booths, and more.

The festival celebrates the *donne sali*, or the Tinian pepper. **(Erwin Encinares)**



Welcome to enjoy fantastic buffet at our **"Tropicana Restaurant"** (2nd floor of Taga Tower)! Performance is available on Sunday Brunch. All you can eat and drink! Champagne, beers.

**\* Breakfast: 7:00am-10:00am \* Lunch: 11:30am-2:00pm \* Sunday Brunch: 11:00am-2:00pm \* Dinner: 5:30pm-9:00pm**

| SUN   | MON  | TUE   | WED  | THU  | FRI  | SAT   |
|---|------|---|--|------|--|---|
|   |      |   | 2/1  | 2/2  | 2/3<br>Buffet Lunch \$14<br>Seafood & Sushi Night<br>Reg.: \$35 (Local: \$25)  | 2/4<br>Seafood & Sushi Night<br>Reg.: \$35 (Local: \$25)  |
| 2/5<br>Sunday Brunch \$22<br>Seafood & Sushi Night<br>Reg.: \$35 (Local: \$25)  | 2/6  | 2/7<br>Seafood & Sushi Night<br>Reg.: \$35 (Local: \$25)  | 2/8<br>Buffet Lunch \$14<br>Seafood & Sushi Night<br>Reg.: \$35 (Local: \$25)  | 2/9  | 2/10<br>Buffet Lunch \$14<br>Seafood & Sushi Night<br>Reg.: \$35 (Local: \$25) | 2/11<br>Seafood & Sushi Night<br>Reg.: \$35 (Local: \$25) |
| 2/12<br>Sunday Brunch \$22<br>Seafood & Sushi Night<br>Reg.: \$35 (Local: \$25) | 2/13 | 2/14<br>Seafood & Sushi Night<br>Reg.: \$35 (Local: \$25) | 2/15<br>Buffet Lunch \$14<br>Seafood & Sushi Night<br>Reg.: \$35 (Local: \$25) | 2/16 | 2/17<br>Buffet Lunch \$14<br>Seafood & Sushi Night<br>Reg.: \$35 (Local: \$25) | 2/18<br>Seafood & Sushi Night<br>Reg.: \$35 (Local: \$25) |
| 2/19<br>Sunday Brunch \$22<br>Seafood & Sushi Night<br>Reg.: \$35 (Local: \$25) | 2/20 | 2/21<br>Seafood & Sushi Night<br>Reg.: \$35 (Local: \$25) | 2/22<br>Buffet Lunch \$14<br>Seafood & Sushi Night<br>Reg.: \$35 (Local: \$25) | 2/23 | 2/24<br>Buffet Lunch \$14<br>Seafood & Sushi Night<br>Reg.: \$35 (Local: \$25) | 2/25<br>Seafood & Sushi Night<br>Reg.: \$35 (Local: \$25) |
| 2/26<br>Sunday Brunch \$22<br>Seafood & Sushi Night<br>Reg.: \$35 (Local: \$25) | 2/27 | 2/28<br>Seafood & Sushi Night<br>Reg.: \$35 (Local: \$25) |  |      |  |   |

\* Our "Dolphin" restaurant (10th floor of Crystal Tower in Grandvrio Resort Saipan) has reopened as A-La-Carte restaurant. Welcome to enjoy fast & nice Lunch Menu (\$8~) and authentic Japanese Shabu Shabu or Sukiyaki for your dinner (\$35).  
"Spectacular Ocean view and Sunset!" Starting from Nov. 07, 2016, our Dolphin restaurant brings out "Daily Chef's Special Lunch" from Mon. to Fri.; everyday is different; \$12 only, 15 servings per day; First in First Out!  
Opening time: Everyday Lunch: 11:30am-2:00pm Last Order: 1:30pm / Dinner 5:30pm-9:00pm Last Order: 8:30pm  
\* "Starlight BBQ" Dinner Buffet Location: Poolside Price: Reg. AD \$39 CH: \$19 (Local: AD \$35/ CH \$17) Business hrs: 6:00-9:00pm  
Menu: "All you can eat & drink" - beers, red & white wine, soft drinks, oolong tea and juices.  
\* Come and taste delicious curry & sandwich set (\$7.00 only), cake, café latte, organic smoothies...  
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**For reservation or inquiry, please call: 670-237-2527 or E-mail: food.beverage@grandvrio-saipan.com**





**DRILL COMPETITION**

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

This Saturday, Feb. 18, 2017, at 8am to 3pm, there will be a CNMI State Drill Competition for all Junior Reserve Officers Training Corps units (Rota High School, Marianas High School, Tinian High School, Kagman High School, Saipan Southern High School) at MHS. All teams present will compete against one another. The winning teams will go to Sacramento, California for the Golden Bear 8th Brigade Western Championship Finals.

Veterans, military service members, their families, and friends are invited to —

# The 1st Northern Marianas Veterans Resource Fair 2017

hosted by

## Congressman Gregorio Kilili Camacho Sablan

SAIPAN— February 22, Multipurpose Center, 1pm—7pm  
TINIAN— February 23, NMC Instructional Site, 10am— 4pm  
ROTA— February 24, Rota Resort, 10am—4pm



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Contact your congressional office at 323-2647 (Saipan), 433-2647 (Tinian), or 532-2647 (Rota) or email Kilili@mail.house.gov for more information.





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From left, Hyatt Regency Saipan security manager Robin Eugenio; Tan Holdings vice president for corporate affairs Catherine Attao; Hyatt Regency Saipan assistant director of food and beverage Seiji Shindo; Tan Holdings corporate consultant David Sablan; Hyatt Regency Saipan food and beverage director Tyrell Pauling; Hyatt Regency Saipan director of rooms Rosalyn Quintanilla; and Tan Siu Lin Foundation assistant manager Raymond Zapanta.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

## TSL Foundation is Hyatt golf platinum sponsor

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Hyatt Regency Saipan's long-standing partner, the Tan Siu Lin Foundation, recently donated \$2,000 to this year's 21<sup>st</sup> Annual Charity Golf Classic, which is held by the hotel as a fundraiser.

Proceeds from the tournament will go to two local nonprofit beneficiaries. The Make-A-Wish® Foundation is the primary beneficiary. The second beneficiary will soon be disclosed.

The Tan Siu Lin Foundation is a nonprofit organization that seeks to help the island community and culture, supports the education advancement of island youth, and sports development in the CNMI.

At the core of Hyatt Regency Saipan's Charity Golf Classic is the belief that fulfilling our purpose first begins with caring for others so they can be their best. There is no better place to start to care for others than within our own community. Through the contributions of partnering organizations, the Hyatt Regency Saipan Charity Golf Classic is a channel for displaying that care factor for members of our

island community. Donations like the Tan Siu Lin Foundation directly impact the tournament's beneficiaries and the island community.

"A business member of the community and a partner in tourism, the Tan Siu Lin Foundation continues to generously support the CNMI's economy. We are thankful for their continual support," said Hyatt Regency Saipan general manager Nick K. Nishikawa.

Sponsorship tiers for the 21<sup>st</sup> Annual Charity Golf Classic:

- Platinum—\$2,000+ in cash or in-kind donations
- Gold—\$1,500+ in cash or in-kind donations
- Silver—\$750+ in cash or in-kind donations
- Bronze—less than \$750 in cash or in-kind donations

Early Bird registration is open until Monday, April 17, 2016, at 4pm for a rate of \$100 per golfer.

Hyatt Regency Saipan will hold its 21<sup>st</sup> Annual Charity Golf Classic event at LaoLao Bay Golf and Resort west course on Saturday, April 22, 2017. For more information contact 234-1234 Ext. 26. (PR)



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## MIFICPA tax seminar on Feb. 25

A group of Filipino accountants is inviting the public to a tax seminar that will focus on tax updates and changes in tax laws.

The Marianas Institute of Filipino CPA's and Accountants will be hosting their annual tax seminar on Feb. 25 at the Raraina, Aqua Resort Club, from 8am to noon.

This year's focus will be on tax updates for 2016 and 2017, changes in tax laws, tax filing requirements, and others.

David Burger, CPA, will be conducting the seminar. He is the managing partner of Burger, Comer, and Magliari.

Registration starts at 7:30am. Registration fee for members is \$20. Non-members and non-accountants are also welcome for the same fee, which includes refreshments, lunch, and certificate of attendance.

If you have any questions, email Angie Mamaril at [angiemamaril@yahoo.com](mailto:angiemamaril@yahoo.com), Lois Manese at [eloisa\\_moanese@yahoo.com](mailto:eloisa_moanese@yahoo.com), Rose Badidoy at [roseann.badidoy@yahoo.com](mailto:roseann.badidoy@yahoo.com), Butch Ordas at [butchordas@yahoo.com](mailto:butchordas@yahoo.com), Gloria Balila at [mgmbalila@yahoo.com](mailto:mgmbalila@yahoo.com), Michael Anthony Jordan at [mkho\\_22@yahoo.com](mailto:mkho_22@yahoo.com) or Yho Villaviencio at [yhubow1300@gmail.com](mailto:yhubow1300@gmail.com). (Demalynn S. Pagarao)

## Team Bodig to hold coin drive

One of the teams in the 2017 Marianas March Against Cancer, Team Bodig, will be holding a coin drive today, Friday, Feb. 17, from 3:30pm to 6pm at the Atkins Kroll Toyota intersection on Beach Road.

Should you have any questions or would like to help support Team Bodig, contact Bridgette Camacho at (670) 287-6772 or email [bridgette.camacho@gmail.com](mailto:bridgette.camacho@gmail.com) or Carlyn DLG Hofschneider at (670) 483-5816 or email [carlyn-bodig@gmail.com](mailto:carlyn-bodig@gmail.com).

This year's Marianas March Against Cancer will take place on May 5 and 6 at the Hopwood Middle School campus field in Chalan Piao. For more information, contact the CCA at (670) 682-0050 or email at [ccamarianas@gmail.com](mailto:ccamarianas@gmail.com). (PR)

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# 2017

# 13th Annual Tinian Hot Pepper Festival





## HAFA'ADAI

### Tachogna Beach

Saturday, February 18, 2017  
2:00pm — 11:00pm

Sunday, February 19, 2017  
10:00am — 11:00pm

For more information contact the Marianas Visitors Authority at 670-433-9365 or 670-664-3200, email [mva@mymarianas.com](mailto:mva@mymarianas.com) or contact the Tinian Mayor's Office at 670-433-1800.







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## NMC features Wonenberg exhibit

By ERWIN ENCINARES  
erwin\_encinares@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

The Northern Marianas College is showcasing the internationally recognized sculptures of the late Barry Wonenberg, the college's arts instructor for 25 years.

Wonenberg, an art, ceramics, painting, drawing, and digital media design teacher, is recognized by NMC as its longest serving faculty member. Because of this, Wonenberg served as the college's mace-bearer during the last three commencement exercises.

NMC president Dr. Carmen Fernandez said that Wonenberg's passing saddened the entire NMC community, as he was a "prolific artist whose passion for art and education has inspired thousands of students and artists."

"Although [Wonenberg] is no longer with us, we are glad we can continue to showcase his immense talent and skill through the exhibit featured at NMC's Library," she added.

The exhibit features various ceramic pieces and sketches, all of which demonstrate the mastery that Wonenberg attained in his craft.

Many of the items on display are on loan from Wonenberg's wife, Margarita DLG Wonenberg, and family. The exhibit was also made possible with the support and assistance of Department of Community and Cultural Affairs Secretary Robert Hunter.

"We are very thankful to Maggie and her children for sharing Barry's legacy with the community," said Fernandez.

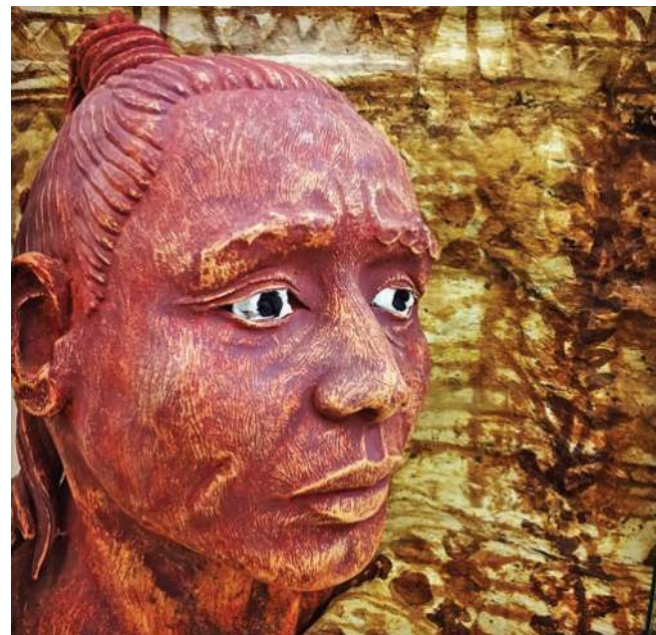
The exhibit started last Jan. 17 and will run for the remainder of the semester, which will end in mid-May.

Community members are invited to visit the exhibit, located inside the Olympio T. Borja Memorial Library, from 8am to 6pm on weekdays and 8am to 5pm on Fridays.

Included in the exhibit is the chance to share thoughts, memories, stories, etc. about Wonenberg and/or his work by writing on blank canvases and in a commemorative book that's also featured in the exhibit.

Once the exhibit ends in May, the book would be given to Wonenberg's family as a keepsake.

Wonenberg passed away last Dec. 21, 2016.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

The sculptures and sketches of the late Barry Wonenberg. Wonenberg was the Northern Marianas College's longest serving faculty member.



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**BIRTHDAY SHOUTOUT**

Happy 1st birthday Liam Jose Palacios! May your day be filled with lots of blessing, love, presents, and fun. One is more ONEderful than you ever ONEdered. Greetings come from nino Ben, Nina Neng, Tatum and Logan.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

# FHB's Caulfield to retire; Baughman to replace him

**HONOLULU, Hawaii**—First Hawaiian Bank chair and chief executive officer Bob Harrison announced yesterday that Gary Caulfield, First Hawaiian Bank vice chairman and chief information officer, is retiring after a distinguished 34-year career as an executive at Hawaii's largest bank.

Caulfield began his banking career with First Hawaiian in 1983 as an assistant vice president and quickly rose through the ranks. He was named vice chairman in 2003 and chief information officer in 2009 and has been a member of the bank's senior man-

agement committee since 1995.

"Throughout his tenure with the bank, Gary has played a pivotal role in leading numerous technology systems conversions and operational changes while minimizing disruption to customer service," said Harrison. "Through his skillful oversight in the areas of technology, data management, operations and research, the bank has been able to achieve greater efficiencies across the board, resulting in significant

**Caulfield**

process optimization."

"Gary is an accomplished leader, a wise sage, and is a teacher at heart. I am grateful for him generously sharing his institutional knowledge with all of us," said Eric Yeaman, president and COO of First Hawaiian. "We want to thank Gary for his friendship, his years of outstanding leadership, and his unwavering dedication to our customers, his team and to our bank."

Caulfield will be succeeded

by Derek Baughman, executive vice president, as the bank's chief information officer. Baughman assumes his new role effective March 1, 2017.

Baughman has over 27 years of experience in the IT industry with 22 of those years in the banking industry and joined the bank in 2014. He is responsible for leading the bank's development of strategic technology initiatives, overseeing all aspect of technology operations and manag-

**Baughman**

ing enterprise-wide technology programs to ensure the bank's systems provide optimal results.

First Hawaiian Bank (fhb.com), with assets of \$19.7 billion, was founded in 1858 as Bishop & Co., and today is Hawaii's largest bank. It has 57 branches in Hawaii, three in Guam and two on Saipan. First Hawaiian, Inc., the parent company of First Hawaiian Bank, is the largest publicly traded company based in Hawaii. (PR)



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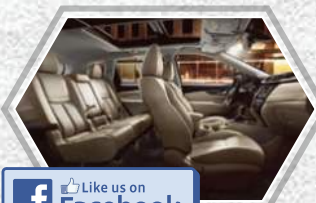


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2017 Nissan Rogue S 2WD retail price \$27,995.00 less 20% downpayment. Financing at 5.4% APR for 72 monthly payments of \$364.86 or \$168.40 per paycheck based on 26 pay periods per year. Total deferred payment \$26,269.92.



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**Monday to Saturday**  
**8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.**

# Sunday radio program to feature Marriage Encounter

In recognition of Valentine's Day celebrated earlier this week, Sunday's "Your Humanities Half-Hour" radio program will highlight the work of Marriage Encounter, the largest

pro-marriage organization in the United States.

Program guests are long-time ME participants Russ and Kanae Quinn, and "encountered" couple Paul and Mae Guerrero who will coor-

dinate the next ME weekend in April 2017.

Marriage Encounter gives spouses an opportunity to grow in their marriage through open and honest communication, face-to-face sharing, and

heart to heart encounters in a comfortable, relaxed session.

The Quinns and Guerreros will discuss their experience with the ME program and explain how it helps to strengthen

their matrimonial bonds.

"Your Humanities Half-Hour," which airs each Sunday from 2pm to 2:30pm on Power 99, is hosted by Catherine Perry Harris. (PR)

## Cope North Exercise on Tinian

The U.S. military is conducting its annual Cope North exercise on Tinian until March 3, 2017. The exercise began on Feb. 12, 2017.

Cope North training is intended to improve combat readiness, develop synergis-

tic humanitarian assistance and/or disaster relief operations, and increase interoperability of the U.S. Forces, Royal Australian Air Force, and Japan Air Self-Defense Force, concentrating on coordination of air tactics,

techniques, and procedures.

From Feb. 12 to March 1, there will be some limited access to some of the runways in North Field. The days that do not have any restrictions during this timeframe include Feb. 18, 2017, the weekend of Feb. 24, 2017, and after March 1, 2017. (PR)

## COMMUNITY BRIEFS

### SHEFA deadline

To all new, ongoing, and returning applicants, the deadline for supporting documents for SHEFA financial assistance is Feb. 28, 2017. (PR)

### Xavier entrance exam on Saturday

The Xavier High School entrance written exam will be administered on Saturday, Feb. 25, at 8:30am at Mt. Carmel School. Interested test takers are encouraged to bring several No. 2 pencils, snacks, and water. Exam fee is \$10. There are two parts to the exam (English and math). Each exam lasts one hour and 30 minutes with a 15-minute break in between. Test takers should be prepared to be on the Mt. Carmel school grounds for three hours and 30 minutes from 8am to 11:30pm. Exam starts exactly at 8:30am. Interested exam takers are encouraged to RSVP by Thursday, Feb. 23, to reserve a seat a seat. Email ialafanso@gmail.com or call 285-8768. Xavier High School is a Jesuit Catholic school. (PR)

### Bodybuilding federation to host fundraiser

The Northern Marianas Bodybuilding & Physique Federation will be holding a "Party in the Park" on Feb. 25, 2017, from 6pm to 9pm, at the Garapan Central Park (Roundhouse) to raise funds for our bodybuilders to compete in local and international competitions. The cost is \$20 per person.

The federation is preparing for the 3rd Annual Marianas Muscle competition to be held on March 25, 2017, and in July it will be holding the CNMI bodybuilding championships.

For tickets, contact Jeanne Rayphand at 287-9807 or email jeannesq@yahoo.com or Karen Davis, at 789-9214. (PR)

### McFun Run to take place this Saturday

The Rotary Club of Saipan and McDonald's Saipan will be hosting the Annual McFun Run this Saturday, Feb. 18, 2017, along the Beach Road pathway. This event for 5K and 10K runs along the pathway from the Carolinian utt in Garapan to the 5K turnaround by the National Office Supply or the turnaround at the Oleai Beach Bar and Grill and back to the Carolinian utt. Registration begins at 5am at the Carolinian utt. Start time is 6:15am. Registration forms are available or can be picked up at all Saipan McDonald's branches, MegaByte, or NMPSI office. (PR)



### WHERE:

START - GARAPAN FISHING BASE  
3K - ACROSS GOLD BEACH HOTEL  
5K - QUARTERMASTER INTERSECTION

### WHEN:

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 24TH, 2017  
4:30 PM - REGISTRATION  
5:30 PM - START OF RUN

### HOW:

PICK UP A REGISTRATION FORM AT 1ST FLOOR, JP CENTER BUILDING, GARAPAN  
OR DOWNLOAD THE FORM AT OUR FACEBOOK PAGE: "TAN SIU LIN FOUNDATION"

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# Opinion

Hafa Adair

## Saipan Tribune

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## EDITORIAL

### Shock-and-awe migrant crackdown requires articulation of a plan

If President Donald Trump truly wants to conduct mass arrests and deportations of undocumented migrants in this country, there's little secret where they're hiding. He merely needs to direct Immigration and Customs Enforcement officers to sweep through the nation's vast chicken farms, restaurant kitchens, or fruit and vegetable fields of California to net hundreds of thousands of migrants working here illegally.

Take just about any unsavory job, often in places so remote that the nation's urban unemployed cannot reach them, and you'll find undocumented immigrants toiling away at minimum wage or below. They are easy targets for ICE officers. But what, exactly, does Trump hope to accomplish with the spectacle of a massive crackdown?

Last week, ICE agents raided homes and worksites across the country, including Texas, Arizona, Georgia, Illinois, New York and California. The raids netted hundreds, including serious felons as well as people whose only crime was driving without a license. Many migrants fear being targeted because they stepped forward to register under President Barack Obama's programs for deferred enforcement action.

The crackdown obviously is designed to show that America's new president means business on illegal immigration. Trump is entirely within his right to enforce U.S. law with zero tolerance, if that's his inclination. Who can argue with aggressive efforts to rid this country of gang members, drug dealers, arms smugglers or any other migrants with serious rap sheets?

It's even hard to summon sympathy for those whose only offense was to possess a fake Social Security number. That's hardly a victimless crime. On the other end is the real holder of that Social Security number coping with unpaid tax bills and possible identity theft. One such migrant, Guadalupe Garcia de Rayos, a mother of two in Phoenix, was among those captured in last week's sweep.

Such law-and-order sweeps also occurred under Obama. Trump, however, has pledged not to limit himself to hardened criminals and, instead, to target all 11 million undocumented migrants in the country.

If last week's raids are the start of something bigger, he owes the American people a fuller explanation. How does Trump plan to address the food shortages that will result when chickens can't be plucked, and fruits and vegetables are left rotting in the fields?

If Trump's goal is to force undocumented migrants to return home and come back the legal way, he first must press Congress to reach a comprehensive immigration reform measure that would make that possible. That goal eluded Trump's two predecessors.

The disruption ahead is serious. It could rattle the nation's economy and force many businesses to shut down for lack of labor. Employers need to plan.

It's the president's job to articulate what he's doing, how much it'll cost, and how

(c)2017 St. Louis Post-Dispatch



## Nothing new here

His national security adviser had to resign after falsely denying secret talks with Russia. His White House aides splintered into warring factions. His courtiers gossiped publicly over whose head was next to fall. So what made President Trump angriest when he got out of bed Tuesday morning?

Leaks.

"The real story here is why are there so many illegal leaks coming out of Washington?" the president tweeted. "Will these leaks be happening as I deal on N.Korea etc?"

The answer, Mr. President, is yes. The leaks are certain to continue—and thank heaven for that.

The U.S. government is a notoriously leaky collection of institutions. It's been that way for decades. "The ship of state is the only known vessel that leaks from the top," James Reston of The New York Times wrote in 1946.

Leaks don't generally involve secrets that endanger national security. Instead, they fall into two relatively harmless categories: positive leaks to make politicians look wiser than they really are, and negative leaks designed to make rivals look bad.

Trump knew for more than two weeks that Flynn had misled Pence and Spicer, but did nothing about it.

More potent is the whistle-blower leak: the leak that happens when a government official believes something wrong is going on, but can't find a way to stop it through normal bureaucratic means. That's what appears to have happened in the case of retired Gen. Michael Flynn.

Flynn talked with the Russian ambassador in December, just after President Obama imposed sanctions on Russia to retaliate for the hacking of U.S. political organizations (including the Hillary Clinton campaign).

David Ignatius of the Washington Post reported on the conversation in mid-January—raising the question of whether Flynn had improperly negotiated over sanctions before Trump's inauguration. Flynn told Vice President-elect Mike Pence and Trump spokesman Sean Spicer that the sanctions never came up in his talks. Pence and Spicer repeated the denials in public.

But that wasn't true.

On Jan. 26, the Justice Department told Trump's White House counsel that Flynn's version was untrue—and that the apparent deception could make him vulnerable to blackmail from Russia. Still, Flynn continued to deny the report.

Then, on Feb. 9, the Post reported that nine current and former officials said Flynn's version was untrue. On Feb. 12, the Post added the possibility of Russian blackmail into the mix. On Feb. 13, Flynn resigned.

Two items jump out from that timeline. One is that Trump knew for more than two weeks that Flynn had misled Pence and Spicer, but did nothing about it. The second is the unusual number of sources in the Post's Feb. 9 article: "nine current and former officials who were in senior positions" at the time of Flynn's phone call.

By **DOYLE MCMANUS**

Los Angeles Times

Doyle McManus is a columnist for the Los Angeles Times. Readers may email him at [doyle.mcmanus@latimes.com](mailto:doyle.mcmanus@latimes.com).



That's not a leak; that's an insurrection.

As Trump tries to remake Washington in his own image, it seems he's going to run into plenty of national security bureaucrats who won't merely be reluctant to cooperate; they'll be ready to blow the whistle if the administration does something they consider improper.

That's far from unprecedented.

In the Watergate scandal that brought down President Nixon, many of the most important leaks came from "Deep Throat," a source who turned out to be Mark Felt, an associate director of the FBI. His motive, it appears, was to stop Nixon from turning the bureau into a politicized arm of the White House.

In the Iran-Contra scandal that entangled President Reagan, many of the leaks about illicit weapons deals came from the national security bureaucracy, too—some from officials who thought Reagan's secret arms sales to Iran were a bad idea, others from officials who thought the National Security Council staff had exceeded its authority.

Trump's leaks haven't only come from national security bureaucrats, however; his White House staffers are prone to gossip, too, sharing—for example—details from his telephone calls with foreign leaders. Those leaks indicate factional spats.

One set of leaks charged that aide Stephen K. Bannon intervened to make sure the immigration ban was applied to permanent residents, an unpopular feature that was later reversed. Others charged that Trump was unhappy with White House Chief of Staff Reince Priebus over the chaotic rollout.

In the Flynn case, leaks have already had consequences beyond the general's resignation.

Influential Senate Republicans have said they plan to insist on a full investigation of Russia's activities during the presidential campaign. The FBI, moreover, is still considering whether Flynn broke any laws. And the Army is looking into whether he received money from the Russian government, which would violate military regulations.

Trump is likely to order a leak investigation, and Republicans in the House say they want to investigate the leaks as well. But if history is any guide, they'll have a hard time finding a culprit—or, if they find one, in proving a case. The leaks will continue. For some bureaucrats, they're a matter of institutional survival. For a few, they're a matter of honor. In a well-run, self-policing government, they wouldn't be necessary.

But in the Trump administration, they're likely to be more important than ever.



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## Spinning on Earth

I'm always happy to entertain things outside of the normal news. So I've been saving a question until it seemed like a good time to bring it up. Today is a good time, since so many people around me tell me they're stressed out by the news these days. Let's just relax then, and get our science on.

Here's the question that came my way a couple of months ago: Since Earth is constantly rotating, how can astronomical telescopes stay aimed at their target objects? In other words, wouldn't an Earthbound telescope have to be constantly adjusted in order to keep its aim?

Yes, indeed. A scope does have to be constantly adjusted to counter Earth's rotation.

Many telescopes automatically slew themselves with electric motors to maintain their point of aim. I probably haven't seen all the methods for this, but I can mention a few that I have seen.

At a rough level this can be accomplished merely by a motor and geometry. One common way of addressing the geometry is with an "equatorial mount," which allows the scope to be slewed across an arc. Not just any arc, mind you, but an arc that counteracts the relative motion of Earth's rotation.

Other solutions use electronics for more precise guidance. Instead of being driven blindly by a motor that relies on pure geometry, the motorized telescope mount takes feedback from an optical sensor (sort of like an electric eye) to track and keep on top of the targeted object. Various types of mounts use electronic guidance, and some of this stuff is very sophisticated.

This is a big deal in photography, where long exposures can be necessary to gather up as much light as possible from faint objects. The scope has to maintain its accurate aim for a long time. These exposures are sometimes on the order of hours. They

are typically taken as a series of shorter exposures and then electronically "stacked" using specialized software.

Sometimes, though, simple measures work for certain situations. If an object is really bright, like the moon, one of the juicier planets, or maybe a showy comet, then even a smartphone held up to the telescope can take a cool shot.

A normal snapshot without a scope can do the trick in some cases. For example, a *Saipan Tribune* reader sent me a shot he took of the "Beaver Moon" on Saipan last November. I really enjoyed getting that photo.

Motors and electronics aren't the only way to keep a scope aimed. So now we'll consider some manual approaches. These aren't precise methods, at least by modern standards, but they're good enough to keep some cosmic blob within the rough confines of the eyepiece.

This leads us to something called a German Equatorial Mount, which is common even in some very low-priced scopes. Some have a manual knob instead of a motor. The user turns the knob to keep the scope aimed. For larger movements, such as pointing the scope at a new object in the sky, other knobs are turned. The whole thing is a lot of rigmarole.

Another manual method is to aim a scope like you'd aim a video camera that's atop a tripod. This is common for small scopes. But for anything larger, it doesn't seem very popular for manual guidance.

There is a common design that simply allows the user to just grab the doggone scope and point it. It works with small scopes and with large (by amateur standards) scopes as well. This is called the Dobsonian design, named for John Dobson, who passed away in 2014 at age 98. This guy is a legend. His efforts really brought scopes to the masses.

**By ED STEPHENS**

*Special to the Saipan Tribune*

Visit Ed Stephens Jr. at [EdStephensJr.com](http://EdStephensJr.com).  
His column runs every Friday.



A Dobsonian scope operates by the same principle that pirates use for adjusting cannon fire. Like a cannon barrel, the tube of the telescope sits in a wooden box, in which the tube can pivot up (higher elevation) or pivot down (lower elevation). Meanwhile, the wooden box itself sits atop a lazy Susan, the same sort of spinning, tabletop disk you see at Chinese restaurants so the various dishes can be rotated among the people sitting around the table. This principle allows for the left- and right movement of the scope.

The Dobsonian design is simple, cheap, and well-suited for manual guidance. It makes astronomy as easy as shooting spitballs. This is the flavor I use. I'm always nudging the scope ever so slightly to keep things centered in the eyepiece as Earth's rotation conspires to drag the object out of view.

There are, incidentally, various electronic ways to slew Dobsonians, but I have not put my hands on any of these examples.

Anyway, those are a few highlights of how scopes are pointed so that our spinning planet doesn't mess things up.

I'm already daydreaming about taking an astronomy trip next month. It sure beats reading the news. Hey, dreaming won't kill you. But stress sure will.

## Leadership: Non-existent

The success of any organization, private or public, is found in its leadership. It is the prime mover in the success of any entity. With it there's vision, therefore progress. Without it, failure!

While the whopping 80-percent salary increase was met with vicious negative reaction from our people, it would have been a positive shift attracting the more competent folks into public office.

It's an investment luring the best, brightest and knowledge-based folks (college educated) who are poised to do meaningful policymaking. It would have pushed the needle of progress forward with a sense of integrity and maturity beyond what we have today. It's an investment in our most promising people.

**Bad timing:** The issue was instantly trashed for one simple reason: the working class has had to endure more than 20 years of stagnant salaries—the same income without improvement—all throughout the period while struggling to meet a myriad of increases. And the elected elite wanted a whopping 80-percent increase in their annual income?

The most obvious show of incompetency is in their reading deficiency neglecting constitutional mandate of how salaries of public officials are set. The bunch even violated the law prohibiting membership on boards and commissions. We've taught them a lesson holding their feet to the fire!

Frankly, I don't care how much the elected elite is paid as long as they first improve family income NMI-wide by 100 percent! There's nothing up that alley! The Republican rhinos were too busy cushioning their Cadillac lifestyle, resting comfortably in their nest of complacency. "We the people" could only dream and salivate over their high Cadillac lifestyle!

**Arrogance:** Appalling your arrogance and apathy, feeding chicken bones to "we the people" while tiptoeing a whopping increase to scaffold your Cadillac lifestyle with more of our taxes! It's bad enough that the working class had to endure increases in everything from utilities, gasoline, basic goods, and clothing while their income remains the same for over 20 years.

None of the legislators who came out defending the proposed increase was sufficiently conversant to defend it. It was all juvenile garble that descended into humiliating silliness. Then most avoided the issue so fraught with deafening silence. Was this malversation or humiliating reading deficiency or both?

**Key players:** Sen. Justo Quitugua is the author of the law or advisory commission. Perhaps he was hoping for a perfect tiptoe. He stumbled and tripped on a trashcan in his office that woke up cockroaches in nearby offices.

But Sens. Jude Hofschneider and Sixto Quitugua were illegal commission members who railroaded the measure without a public hearing. What gall! If this were a crime, it was a near perfect straw. It backfired!

Humiliating your collective failure to read and understand the very law you approved. Was it the greedy "tiptoe" syndrome or sheer reading deficiency or both that you forgot to fund your loot? Were you singing, "Joy To The Whirl?"

Raffy Torres and Arnie Palacios treated the measure like a leper at the front door. They tiptoed around it, letting it become law without their signature. It's obvious they chanced being beneficiaries. Otherwise, they'd have vetoed it without a blink. Hypocrites! I'm sure they know we weren't born yesterday or "Not yet, already?"

**Revolt:** The populist revolt against the Washington establishment dealt a heavy blow against arrogant politicians for ignoring the livelihood of 80 percent of the working class across the country. It is a clear rebuke of D.C. types who only care about their retirement and Cadillac lifestyle, ignoring the needs of "we the people."

**It's here!** This sentiment has landed on our shores and would replicate the same powerful sentiment against imperial Capital Hill elite. The voice of "we the people" would soundly bring the hill's elected elite to their knees next year!

An 80-percent increase in salary sets the elected elite resting comfortably in their laurels; most of us could only salivate as we quietly keep our dignity in destitution. It's time to show Capital Hill "no mas!"

**By JOHN S. DELROSARIO JR.**

*Special to the Saipan Tribune*

John DelRosario Jr. is a former publisher of Saipan Tribune and a former secretary of Department of Public Lands.



Interesting the AG's assertion, "It is my duty as chief legal officer of the Commonwealth to enforce the NMI Constitution." True! But some consistency is in order, like the inclusion of Biktot Hokog and Larissa Larson in your lawsuit against the MV Luta Mermaid.

After all, aren't public officials held to higher standards of ethics? I could see your motive but the violation of substantive laws weren't committed by common folks the equivalence of a traffic violation. Nah! Must begin by teaching narcissistic officials to follow the laws of the land!

**The villagers:** How mind bending listening to our poorest folks here whose only grace of hope is in their monthly food stamps stipend. I'd quietly quiz how did they get here in the first place and is this the end of their journey?






Their condition is the net result of negligence by the Cadillac bunch. How could you have missed the hardship of your people? Whatever happened to vision, values, and commitment?

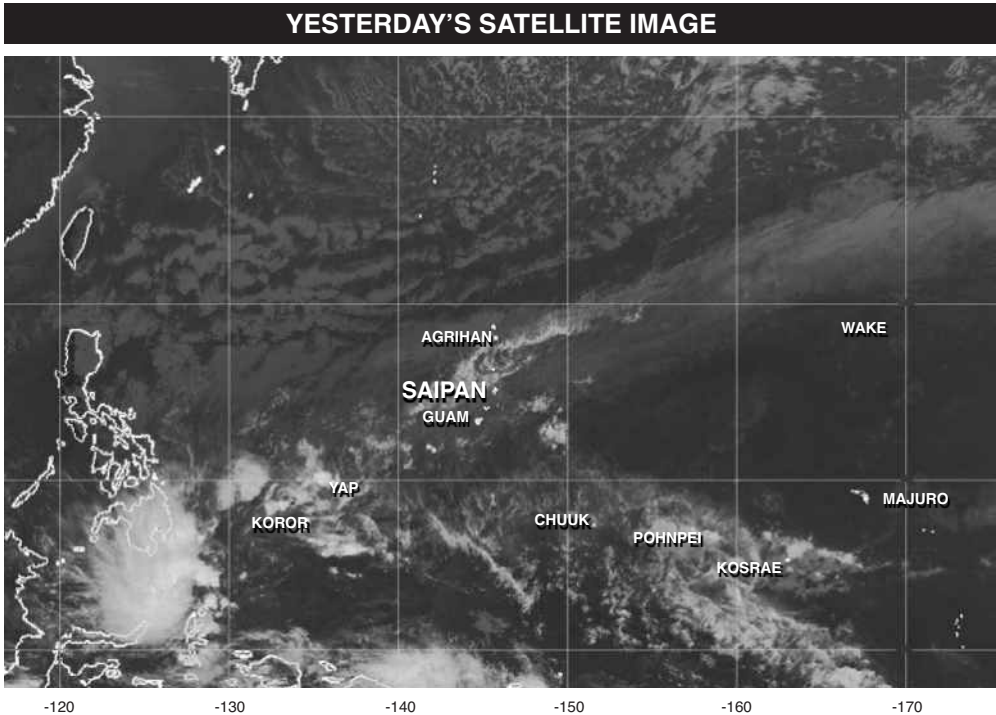
**Debts galore:** The NMI is drowning in debts to the tune of \$471 million, per information released by Rep. Ed Propst and legislative fiscal analyst Dave Demapan. Eh, this is one huge red flag the chief navigator on the hill can't take lightly. The implications are dire all the way around.

What happens if the single but fickle economic engine sputters? Would the NMI consistently keep its debts current including paring down long-term debts? How do we cushion programs like ACA under Obamacare when Congress repeals it? Time to seriously reassess what lies ahead. EVERbody home?



# The Weather

| 5-DAY FORECAST FOR SAIPAN AND TINIAN  |   |   |   |  |
|---|---|---|---|--|
| TODAY   | SATURDAY  | SUNDAY  | MONDAY  | TUESDAY  |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| Partly sunny and windy with isolated showers. Northeast winds 20 to 30 mph.       | Mostly cloudy and breezy with isolated showers.                                   | Mostly cloudy with isolated showers.  | Mostly cloudy with isolated showers.  | Mostly cloudy with isolated showers.   |
| ▲86° ▼75°   | ▲85° ▼75°   | ▲85° ▼76°   | ▲86° ▼76°   | ▲86° ▼76°  |



PICTURE TIME: 3:32 AM, THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 2017  
WESTERN NORTH PACIFIC BETWEEN EQUATOR AND 25N FROM 130E TO 180.

The shear line has shifted southward to a position about 100 miles south of Guam, and a broken band of showers and a few thunderstorms has developed along the boundary. Further north, scattered drizzly rain showers persist over Guam and Rota, while Tinian and Saipan have had only brief sprinkles. Northeast winds are still fresh to strong, with 9-12 ft seas at the buoys.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an up-dated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: [www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/](http://www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/)

| MICRONESIA ▼ ▲ °F |               |           |
|-------------------|---------------|-----------|
| Guam and Rota     | Partly Cloudy | 83° / 76° |
| Palau             | Thunderstorm  | 83° / 77° |
| Yap               | Thunderstorm  | 83° / 78° |
| Chuuk             | Thunderstorm  | 86° / 79° |
| Pohnpei           | Thunderstorm  | 86° / 78° |
| Kosrae            | Thunderstorm  | 85° / 78° |
| Majuro            | Partly Cloudy | 85° / 80° |

| AROUND THE GLOBE ▼ ▲ °F |               |           |
|-------------------------|---------------|-----------|
| Auckland                | Mostly Sunny  | 48° / 28° |
| Beijing                 | Sunny         | 48° / 28° |
| Hong Kong               | Sunny         | 81° / 63° |
| Honolulu                | Partly Cloudy | 84° / 69° |
| London                  | Partly Cloudy | 54° / 39° |
| Los Angeles             | Rain          | 60° / 56° |
| Manila                  | Thunderstorm  | 84° / 72° |
| Melbourne               | Partly Cloudy | 66° / 50° |
| Miami                   | Partly Cloudy | 81° / 58° |
| New York                | Mostly Sunny  | 45° / 33° |
| Osaka                   | Showers       | 48° / 37° |
| Paris                   | Partly Cloudy | 55° / 43° |
| Pusan                   | Partly Cloudy | 46° / 28° |
| Rome                    | Partly Cloudy | 61° / 48° |
| Salem                   | Mostly Sunny  | 69° / 46° |
| San Francisco           | Mostly Sunny  | 45° / 26° |
| Seoul                   | Partly Cloudy | 39° / 23° |
| Tokyo                   | Mostly Cloudy | 48° / 36° |
| Washington, DC          | Mostly Sunny  | 49° / 35° |



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|---------------------------------|-----------|------|
| 5:45 AM                         | LOW TIDE  | 0.66 |
| 11:46 AM                        | HIGH TIDE | 1.77 |
| 6:49 PM                         | LOW TIDE  | 0.5  |
| -                               | -         | -    |

| DAY      | SUNRISE | SUNSET  |
|----------|---------|---------|
| Friday   | 6:41 AM | 6:21 PM |
| Saturday | 6:40 AM | 6:22 PM |
| Sunday   | 6:40 AM | 6:22 PM |
| Monday   | 6:39 AM | 6:22 PM |
| Tuesday  | 6:39 AM | 6:23 PM |

| DAY      | MOONRISE | MOONSET  | MOONRISE |
|----------|----------|----------|----------|
| Friday   | -        | 10:50 AM | 11:37 PM |
| Saturday | -        | 11:31 AM | -        |
| Sunday   | 12:26 AM | 12:13 PM | -        |
| Monday   | 1:14 AM  | 12:57 PM | -        |
| Tuesday  | 2:03 AM  | 1:43 PM  | -        |

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|---|--------|---------|--------------------------|--|--------------|------------------------|-----------|--------------------------|--|
| DEPARTURES                              |        |         |                          |  | ARRIVALS     |                        |           |                          |  |
| SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)                       |        |         |                          |  |              | GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN      |           |                          |  |
| UA6394                                  | 4:15am | 5:05am  | Daily                    |  | UA6393       | 2:45am                 | 3:35am    | Daily                    |  |
| UA6392                                  | 8:40am | 9:30am  | Daily                    |  | UA6395       | 7:15am                 | 8:05am    | Daily                    |  |
| UA6391                                  | 1:30pm | 3:10pm  | 1, 4, 5, 7 via Rota      |  | UA6391       | 12:10pm                | 1:00pm    | 1, 4, 5, 7               |  |
| UA6390                                  | 2:20pm | 3:10pm  | 2, 3, 6                  |  | UA6390       | 12:10pm                | 1:50pm    | 2, 3, 6 via Rota         |  |
| UA6398                                  | 6:05pm | 6:55pm  | Daily                    |  | UA6397       | 4:45pm                 | 5:35pm    | Daily                    |  |
| UA6396                                  | 9:50pm | 10:40pm | Daily                    |  | UA6399       | 8:30pm                 | 9:20pm    | Daily                    |  |
| SAIPAN-ROTA (ROP)                       |        |         |                          |  |              | GUAM (GUM)-ROTA (ROP)  |           |                          |  |
| UA6391                                  | 1:30pm | 2:05pm  | 1, 4, 5, 7               |  | UA6390       | 12:10pm                | 12:45pm   | 2, 3, 6                  |  |
| ROTA (ROP)-GUAM (GUM)                   |        |         |                          |  |              | ROTA (ROP)-SAIPAN      |           |                          |  |
| UA6391                                  | 2:35pm | 3:10pm  | 1, 4, 5, 7               |  | UA6390       | 1:15pm                 | 1:50pm    | 2, 3, 6                  |  |
| SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)                     |        |         |                          |  |              | NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN    |           |                          |  |
| DL297                                   | 4:10pm | 7:05pm  | Daily                    |  | DL298        | 10:20am                | 2:55pm    | Daily                    |  |
| SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)                      |        |         |                          |  |              | SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN     |           |                          |  |
| TW308                                   | 2:35am | 6:25am  | Daily                    |  | LJ651        | 8:25am                 | 1:45pm    | Daily                    |  |
| OZ626                                   | 2:10am | 6:00am  | 1                        |  | ZE581        | 10:15am                | 3:35pm    | Daily                    |  |
| OZ626                                   | 2:50am | 6:40am  | 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7         |  | 7C3402       | 10:10am                | 3:30pm    | Daily                    |  |
| OZ628                                   | 3:50am | 7:40am  | Daily                    |  | OZ625        | 7:40pm                 | 1:00am+1  | 7                        |  |
| 7C3403                                  | 4:35am | 8:30am  | Daily                    |  | TW307        | 8:15pm                 | 1:35am+1  | Daily                    |  |
| LJ652                                   | 3:10pm | 7:05pm  | Daily                    |  | OZ625        | 8:20pm                 | 1:40am+1  | 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6         |  |
| 7C3401                                  | 4:30pm | 8:25pm  | Daily                    |  | OZ627        | 9:30pm                 | 2:50am+1  | Daily                    |  |
| ZE582                                   | 4:25pm | 8:35pm  | Daily                    |  | 7C3404       | 10:10pm                | 3:30am+1  | Daily                    |  |
| SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)                      |        |         |                          |  |              | BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN     |           |                          |  |
| 7C3451                                  | 2:55am | 6:10am  | 1, 7                     |  | 7C3452       | 8:30pm                 | 1:20am+1  | 6, 7                     |  |
| OZ608                                   | 3:10am | 6:20am  | 4, 7                     |  | OZ607        | 9:00pm                 | 1:50am+1  | 3, 6                     |  |
| 7C3451                                  | 3:15am | 6:30am  | 4, 5                     |  | 7C3452       | 9:35pm                 | 2:15am+1  | 3, 4                     |  |
| SAIPAN-JEJU (CJU)                       |        |         |                          |  |              | JEJU (CJU)-SAIPAN      |           |                          |  |
| 7C3433                                  | 3:55am | 7:30am  | 3, 7                     |  | 7C3434       | 10:05pm                | 2:40am+1  | 2, 6                     |  |
| SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)                   |        |         |                          |  |              | SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN  |           |                          |  |
| 3U8648                                  | 5:40am | 8:00am  | 1, 4, 5, 7               |  | 3U8647       | 10:20pm                | 4:30am+1  | 3, 4, 6, 7               |  |
| SAIPAN-BEIJING (PEK)                    |        |         |                          |  |              | BEIJING (PEK)-SAIPAN   |           |                          |  |
| MU764                                   | 1:30am | 6:50am  | 3, 5, 7                  |  | MU763        | 4:40pm                 | 12:30am+1 | 2, 4, 6                  |  |
| SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN)                  |        |         |                          |  |              | GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN |           |                          |  |
| 3U8646                                  | 4:30am | 7:50am  | 2, 6                     |  | 3U8645       | 7:50pm                 | 2:40am+1  | 1, 5                     |  |
| SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)                     |        |         |                          |  |              | MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN    |           |                          |  |
| OZ626/701                               | 2:10am | 10:50am | 1 via ICN                |  | UA190/6397   | 9:55am                 | 5:35pm    | 2, 3, 6, 7 via GUM       |  |
| OZ626/701                               | 2:50am | 10:50am | 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN |  | OZ702/625    | 12:30pm                | 1:00am+1  | 7 via ICN                |  |
| UA6394/191                              | 4:15am | 9:00am  | 2, 3, 6, 7 via GUM       |  | OZ702/625    | 12:30pm                | 1:40am+1  | 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN |  |
| UA6394/PR111                            | 4:15am | 9:30am  | Daily via GUM            |  | PR110/UA6395 | 10:05pm                | 8:05am+1  | Daily via GUM            |  |
| PR1572                                  | 5:45am | 7:45am  | 4, 7                     |  | UA192/6395   | 10:20pm                | 8:05am+1  | 2, 5 via ROR-GUM         |  |
| UA6391/183                              | 1:30pm | 9:30pm  | 5 via Rota-GUM           |  | PR1571       | 10:25pm                | 4:45am+1  | 3, 6                     |  |
| UA6391/183                              | 1:30pm | 9:50pm  | 1, 4, 7 via Rota-GUM     |  | UA184/6395   | 10:55pm                | 8:05am+1  | 1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM    |  |
| UA6391/193                              | 1:30pm | 11:10pm | 5 via Rota-GUM-ROR       |  | UA184/6395   | 11:55pm                | 8:05am+1  | 2, 5 via GUM             |  |
| UA6390/183                              | 2:20pm | 9:30pm  | 2 via GUM                |  |              |                        |           |                          |  |
| UA6390/183                              | 2:20pm | 9:50pm  | 3, 6 via GUM             |  |              |                        |           |                          |  |
| UA6390/193                              | 2:20pm | 11:10pm | 2 via GUM-ROR            |  |              |                        |           |                          |  |
| SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG)                  |        |         |                          |  |              | HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN |           |                          |  |
| UO43                                    | 1:40am | 5:00am  | 1, 4, 6                  |  | OZ722/625    | 1:15pm                 | 1:00am+1  | 7 via ICN                |  |
| HX077                                   | 2:15am | 5:15am  | 1, 4                     |  | OZ722/625    | 1:15pm                 | 1:40am+1  | 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN |  |
| OZ626/721                               | 2:10am | 11:50am | 1 via ICN                |  | OZ724/627    | 2:20pm                 | 2:50am+1  | Daily via ICN            |  |
| OZ626/721                               | 2:50am | 11:50am | 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN |  | HX076        | 5:50pm                 | 12:45am+1 | 3, 7                     |  |
| OZ628/723                               | 3:50am | 12:50pm | Daily via ICN            |  | PR307/1571   | 6:20pm                 | 4:45am+1  | 3, 6 via MNL             |  |
| PR1572/318                              | 5:45am | 12:20pm | 4, 7 via MNL             |  | UO42         | 9:30pm                 | 4:25am+1  | 2, 4, 6                  |  |
| UA6391/159                              | 1:30pm | 10:35pm | 1, 5 via Rota-GUM        |  | UA116/6395   | 9:55pm                 | 8:05am+1  | 1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM       |  |
| UA6390/159                              | 2:20pm | 10:35pm | 3, 6 via GUM             |  |              |                        |           |                          |  |

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 3U Sichuan Airlines, 7C Jeju Air, DL Delta Airlines, UO HK Express, HX HongKong Airlines, LJ Jin Air, MU China Eastern, OZ Asiana Airlines, TW t'way Air, UA United Airlines, ZE Eastar Jet; ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. *(The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)*

STAR MARIANAS AIR, INC.

| TINIAN TO SAIPAN |         |                                 |
|------------------|---------|---------------------------------|
| DEPARTURE        | ARRIVAL | FREQUENCY                       |
| 6:30AM           | 6:45AM  | Mon, Tue, Wed,<br>Thu, Fri, Sat |
| 7:30AM           | 7:45AM  | Daily                           |
| 8:30AM           | 8:45AM  | Daily                           |
| 9:30AM           | 9:45AM  | Daily                           |
| 10:30AM          | 10:45AM | Daily                           |
| 11:30AM          | 11:45AM | Daily                           |
| 12:30NN          | 12:45NN | Daily                           |
| 1:30PM           | 1:45PM  | Daily                           |
| 2:30PM           | 2:45PM  | Daily                           |
| 3:30PM           | 3:45PM  | Daily                           |
| 4:30PM           | 4:45PM  | Daily                           |
| 5:30PM           | 5:45PM  | Daily                           |

| SAIPAN TO TINIAN |         |           |
|------------------|---------|-----------|
| DEPARTURE        | ARRIVAL | FREQUENCY |
| 7:00AM           | 7:15AM  | Daily     |
| 8:00AM           | 8:15AM  | Daily     |
| 9:00AM           | 9:15AM  | Daily     |
| 10:00AM          | 10:15AM | Daily     |
| 11:00AM          | 11:15AM | Daily     |
| 12:00NN          | 12:15NN | Daily     |
| 1:00PM           | 1:15PM  | Daily     |
| 2:00PM           | 2:15PM  | Daily     |
| 3:00PM           | 3:15PM  | Daily     |
| 4:00PM           | 4:15PM  | Daily     |
| 5:00PM           | 5:15PM  | Daily     |

| SAIPAN TO ROTA |         |                                 |
|----------------|---------|---------------------------------|
| DEPARTURE      | ARRIVAL | FREQUENCY                       |
| 7:45AM         | 8:15AM  | Mon, Tues,Wed,<br>Thu, Fri, Sat |
| 4:00PM         | 4:30PM  | Mon, Tues,Wed,<br>Thu, Fri, Sat |

| ROTA TO SAIPAN |         |                                 |
|----------------|---------|---------------------------------|
| DEPARTURE      | ARRIVAL | FREQUENCY                       |
| 8:30AM         | 9:00AM  | Mon, Tues,Wed,<br>Thu, Fri, Sat |
| 4:45PM         | 5:15PM  | Mon, Tues,Wed,<br>Thu, Fri, Sat |





SCHMIDT OCEAN INSTITUTE

The outreach team, from left to right, cartoonist Lucy Bellwood, student opportunities participant Andrew Kang, 11th Hour ambassador Brock Callen Jr., 11th Hour grantee Brock Callen Sr., and educator Jena Kline.



SCHMIDT OCEAN INSTITUTE

Joyce Miler and Jena Kline review the mapping data in the science control room.

# Underwater mapping reveals evolution of Johnston Atoll

**HONOLULU, Hawaii**—Over 11,000 square kilometers of the ocean floor were mapped in high-resolution for the first time in a recent research expedition sponsored by Schmidt Ocean Institute and led by University of Hawaii scientist Dr. John R. Smith.

Smith, working with Jonathan Tree, University of Hawaii, and Joyce Miller, used multibeam sonar on research vessel *Falkor* to generate detailed maps of portions of the remote Johnston Atoll Unit of the Pacific Remote Islands Marine National Monument.

The mapped region, which is almost the size of the state of Connecticut, falls within the recently expanded boundaries of a U.S. marine protected area. The area is populated with high-density deep-sea corals and sponges and is of great interest to researchers who view it as a stepping-stone between distinct marine ecosystems in the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands and the Central and South Pacific.

“We are trying to characterize the living and non-living resources in these newly protected regions,” said Smith. “Detailed seafloor maps are the first step toward more focused follow-on studies with manned and robotic submersibles. Much like planning a road trip, the first thing you go to is a paper map or Google maps. In this case, the seafloor features provide the habitat for the biological communities that call these seamounts their home, and we use the mapping data to locate them by knowing their preferences from previous studies.”

Compiling the days of multibeam mapping results revealed fascinating structures under the ocean surface.

The last of these features to be mapped, and perhaps the most interesting, is a large seamount dotted with smaller peaks currently referred to as “Big Top,” as it resembles the broad striped big top tents commonly seen at carnivals.


In addition to revealing the shape of these seamounts, the mapping that was completed on this expedition also yields valuable insight into their geologic composition. Although “Big Top” is now one large mass, this analysis demonstrates that it was potentially four distinct volcanoes reaching thousands of feet above the ocean surface in the past. Since then, continued remodeling in the form of volcanic eruptions and erosion has morphed it into one large, sub-surface mountain.

A dedicated science outreach team to engage the public in these essential mapping expeditions accompanied Smith, Tree and Miller on this three-week expedition from Guam to Honolulu.

Adventure cartoonist Lucy Bellwood created a comic book series presenting the science of multibeam mapping and highlighting the unique findings of this expedition, which were also turned into a film short.


Educators, including Jena Kline (‘Iolani School, HI) and 11th Hour Racing grantee Brock Callen Sr. (Martha’s Vineyard Regional High School & Sail Martha’s Vineyard, MA) designed curriculum for students based on the data collected at sea, and along with 11th Hour Racing ambassador Brock Callen Jr., conducted ship-to-shore connections from the ship to engage classrooms in oceanographic research and conservation.

For more information visit [www.schmidtocean.org](http://www.schmidtocean.org). (PR)



## DIVISION OF COASTAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT

Caller Box 10007, Gualo Rai Center, Saipan MP 96950  
TEL. NO. 664-8300 FAX NO. 664-8315



# NOTICE OF APPLICATION

As of February 17, 2017

THE FOLLOWING IS A PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT OF COASTAL PERMIT APPLICATIONS RECEIVED BY THE DCRM OFFICE:

| APPLICANT  | DATE APPLICATION RECEIVED                         | APPLICATION PROJECT DESCRIPTION                         | LOCATION             | TYPE               | STATUS                          |
|--|---|---|----------------------|--------------------|---------------------------------|
| 1. Imperial Pacific International                        | 11/14/2016<br>SS-2017-X-016                       | Habitat Restoration & Conservation Plan                 | Garapan, Saipan      | Shoreline          | Extended - Pending Submission   |
| 2. Hayden Corporation                                    | 12/27/2016<br>SW-2017-X-021                       | Staging   | Capitol Hill, Saipan | Wetland            | Under Review-Extended           |
| 3. Marianas Enterprise Limited                           | 12/30/2016<br>SWm-2017-X-022                      | Staging   | Tanapag, Saipan      | Wetland            | Under Review - Extended         |
| 4. Bridge Investment Group                               | 12/30/2016<br>TPIm-2015-X-065<br>Amendment 2017-1 | Staging   | Tinian               | Ports & Industrial | Under Review - Extended         |
| 5. Saipan Intl. Real Estate Development dba. Ocean Vista | 01/04/2017<br>SMS-2015-X-010<br>Amendment 2017-1  | Design Revision/Expansion                               | Capitol Hill, Saipan | Major Siting       | Public Hearing 03/07/2017       |
| 6. Tai Su International Development Inc.                 | 09/12/2016<br>SMS-2016-X-076                      | Beach Road Ocean View Resort Complex                    | Beach Road, Saipan   | Major Siting       | Public Hearing 03/07/2017       |
| 7. Rota Department of Public Works                       | 09/28/2016<br>RMS-2016-X-086                      | Coral Quarry Pit (Mining & Operations)                  | Igua, Rota           | Major Siting       | Agency Board Meeting 03/09/2017 |
| 8. Aqua Marine Corporation                               | 01/26/2017<br>SLRm-2005-X-127                     | Marine Sports Activities<br>Scuba Diving Tour Operation | Saipan & Tinian      | Lagoon & Reef      | Renewal- Approved 02/06/2017    |
| 9. Forson Holding (CNMI), LLC                            | 01/30/2017<br>SMS-2017-X-029                      | Transfer of Permit from American Textile (SMS-97-X-85)  | Tanapag, Saipan      | Major Siting       | Under Review*                   |
| 10. Aquaville Inc.                                       | 01/30/2017<br>SLRm-2013-X-006                     | Marine Sports Activities<br>Banana Boat Operation       | Tanapag, Saipan      | Lagoon & Reef      | Renewal-Approved 02/07/2017     |
| 11. Auto Marine Inc.                                     | 01/30/2017<br>SLRm-98-X-224                       | Marine Sports Activities<br>Reef Walker Operation       | Puerto Rico, Saipan  | Lagoon & Reef      | Renewal-Approved 02/07/2017     |
| 12. Time Creation Corp. Dba. TCC Diving Tour             | 02/07/2017<br>SLRm-2014-X-011                     | Marine Sports Activities<br>Scuba Diving Tour Operation | Saipan & Tinian      | Lagoon & Reef      | Renewal-Approved 02/09/2017     |
| 13. SUP Saipan, LLC                                      | 02/08/2017<br>SLRm-2013-X-017                     | Marine Sports Activities<br>Standup Paddle              | Beach Road, Saipan   | Lagoon & Reef      | Renewal-Approved 02/09/2017     |
| 14. Mark Arnold L. Santos dba. Mac's Marine              | 02/09/2017<br>SLRm-2007-X-092                     | Marine Sports Activities<br>Banana Boat Operation       | Tanapag, Saipan      | Lagoon & Reef      | Renewal - Under Review          |
| 15. Castle Project CNMI LLC                              | 02/01/2017<br>SMS-96-X-376<br>Amendment 2017-1    | Renovation  | Tanapag, Saipan      | Major Siting       | Under Review                    |
| 16. Public Land - Public Right Of Way                    | 02/07/2017<br>SWm-2017-X-030                      | Access Road Relocation                                  | San Vicente, Saipan  | Wetland            | Under Review*                   |
| 17. MDA Enterprises, Inc.                                | 02/07/2017<br>SCHm-2017-X-030                     | Building Extension & Renovation                         | San Roque, Saipan    | Coastal Hazard     | Approved, 02/09/2017            |
| 18. Commonwealth Utilities Corporation                   | 02/09/2017<br>SPI/Wm-2017-X-031                   | Replace & Repair<br>Sewer Leak                          | Lower Base, Saipan   | Multiple APCs      | Approved, 02/10/2017            |
| 19. Ignacia, Gina A                                      | 02/13/2017<br>SPI-2017-X-032                      | To install 3-40 Primary Poles Power                     | Tanapag, Saipan      | Ports & Industrial | Under Review*                   |
| 20. Windsurfing Saipan Inc.                              | 02/13/2017<br>SS/LR-2017-X-033                    | 35th Micronesian Open Windsurfing Regatta               | Micro Beach, Saipan  | Lagoon & Reef      | Under Review                    |

§15-10-210 of the CRM Rules and Regulation requires all permit applications to be published in a newspaper for general circulation within the CNMI within 15 days of receipt of application. The list reflects recently received permit applications and those with a recent change in status. New applications are marked with an asterisk (\*).

The Public is invited to submit written comments regarding any of the above projects for which a permit decision has not been issued. All permit comments should identify the project by application number. Your comments should be mailed or hand-delivered to the DCRM Office. All persons who desire a public hearing regarding any project may do so by submitting a written request for a public hearing to the DCRM Office within fourteen (14) days for minor permits (APCs) and proposed amended major sitings. Public Hearings are required for all new major siting projects. All public hearing notices are published in a local newspaper of general circulation. Residents of Rota and Tinian may submit comments and hearing requests to their local DCRM Coordinator. Persons wishing to retain the right to appeal a DCRM Permit decision must file a notice of appeal with the DCRM office within thirty (30) days of the issuance of the DCRM permit decision as provided in Part 200 § 15-10-235 of the DCRM Regulations.



# Business

## Puzder withdraws nomination to be Trump's labor secretary

WASHINGTON (AP)—President Donald Trump's nominee for labor secretary abruptly withdrew his nomination Wednesday after Senate Republicans balked at supporting him, in part over taxes he belatedly paid on a former housekeeper not authorized to work in the United States.

Fast-food executive Andrew Puzder issued a short statement abandoning the effort, saying he was "honored to have been considered by President Donald Trump to lead the Department of Labor."

White House spokesman Sean Spicer declined to comment on possible replacements, but said late Wednesday that the White House had seen the

writing on the wall.

"We know how to count," he said.

Puzder's nomination became part of a streak of contentious confirmation battles and haphazard White House actions, including a botched rollout of Trump's executive order on refugees and the ouster of national security adviser Michael Flynn.

Sen. Lamar Alexander, who would have chaired Puzder's confirmation hearing Thursday, issued a terse statement saying the nominee would have made an "excellent" labor secretary, but "I respect his decision" to quit pursu-



Puzder

ing the post. Puzder spokesman George Thompson said his boss was a victim of "an unprecedented smear campaign."

What troubled majority Republicans most of all was Puzder's acknowledgement that he had not paid taxes on the housekeeper until after Trump nominated him to the Cabinet post Dec. 9—five years after he had fired the worker.

Thompson said in an e-mail that Puzder informed the White House of the housekeeper matter "after the nomination." People interviewed during the transition period said they were

not asked by Trump's team to provide vetting information, raising questions about the level of scrutiny.

Ultimately, Republicans made it clear that Puzder did not have the votes for confirmation.

Democrats and their allies welcomed Puzder's withdrawal, saying his corporate background and opposition to such proposals as a big hike in the minimum wage made him an unfit advocate for American workers at the top of an agency charged with enforcing protections.

They had already made it clear that Puzder's statements

about women and his own workers would be major issues at his confirmation hearing.

Puzder was quoted in Entrepreneur magazine in 2015 as saying, "I like beautiful women eating burgers in bikinis." He said the racy commercials for Carl's Jr., one of his companies, were "very American."

Democrats also said Puzder had disparaged workers at his restaurants by calling them "the best of the worst." He was quoted by Business Insider as saying he wanted to try robots at his restaurants, because "They're always polite, they always upsell, they never take

a vacation, they never show up late, there's never a slip-and-fall, or an age, sex or race discrimination case."

A coalition led by the pro-labor National Employment Law Project and Jobs With Justice groups said Puzder's withdrawal represents the "first victory of the resistance against President Trump."

"Workers and families across the country spoke up loud and clear that they want a true champion for all workers in the Labor Department," said Sen. Patty Murray, the ranking Democrat on the panel that was to handle the hearing.

## Seoul court begins to deliberate Samsung chief's arrest

SEOUL, South Korea (AP)—A South Korean court began deliberating on Thursday whether to issue an arrest warrant for a Samsung heir in connection to a massive corruption scandal that led to the impeachment of the country's president.

Samsung Electronics Vice Chairman Lee Jae-yong walked into the Seoul Central District Court without speaking to the pack of reporters.

Lee and other Samsung top executives have been questioned over the past several weeks by prosecutors investigating the influence-peddling scandal that engulfed President Park Geun-hye. Park, whose power was suspended

in December by the parliament, is waiting for a decision by the country's Constitutional Court on whether to permanently remove her from the presidential seat.

The prosecutors are seeking permission for the second time to arrest the 48-year-old billionaire heir to Samsung. They accuse him of giving bribes worth \$36 million to President Park and her long-time friend in order to win government favors for a smooth company leadership transition.

The prosecutors are also investigating Lee on allegations of embezzlement, hiding assets overseas and lying under oath during a parliamentary hearing.

Samsung has denied that it has offered bribes or sought any wrongful favors to the president.

If the court approves the arrest warrant, the prosecutors will be able to take him into the custody for up to 21 days before they formally press charges. The approval would also help bring bribery charges against President Park.

If the court dismisses the arrest warrant, it will deal another blow to the prosecutors who have until Feb. 28 to investigate the scandal, unless the parliament extends the deadline.

The court rejected a first attempt to arrest Lee last month, citing a lack of evidence.

## Yellen defends Fed independence, banking regulations

WASHINGTON (AP)—Federal Reserve Chair Janet Yellen defended the central bank's independence Wednesday from Republican lawmakers who are pushing for major changes in how the central bank operates and how regulators oversee the nation's banking system.

During a hearing that stretched over four hours, GOP lawmakers repeatedly challenged Yellen's handling of the economy and her leadership in implementing the 2010 Dodd-Frank Act, a measure that President Donald Trump and Republicans have vowed to overhaul.

Republicans pointedly told Yellen that she should realize that changes are underway with Republicans in control

of the White House and both the House and Senate.

"After eight years there is zero evidence that zero interest rates and a bloated Fed balance sheet lead to a healthy economy," House Financial Services Chairman Jeb Hensarling, R-Texas, told Yellen. "Clearly, American have a newfound expectation that our economy will grow healthier with different policies coming out of Washington."

Hensarling indicated that he would be pushing his legislation to limit the Fed's independence by requiring the central bank to follow a numerical formula for setting interest rates and subject the Fed's interest rate decisions to audit by the Government Accountability Office, the

auditing arm of Congress.

Yellen told the panel she remained opposed to both proposals, arguing that while the Fed considers various formulas during its discussions on interest rates, no single formula offers the flexibility the Fed needs in making decisions. She said allowing the central bank to be second guessed by congressional auditors would be harmful to the independence the Fed needs to pursue correct policies.

"I think central banks all over the world have recognized that an independent central bank that can focus on the long-term health of the economy ... gives rise to a better economic environment," Yellen told the committee.

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands  
**NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION**  
Tel: (670) 234-6866/234-9447/234-7689/234-7670 - Fax: (670) 234-9021 Email: [nmhc@nmhc.gov.mp](mailto:nmhc@nmhc.gov.mp)

**PUBLIC NOTICE**

Pursuant to Public Law 8-41, the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation (NMHC) Board of Directors, through its Chairman of the Board, is hereby giving notice that the Regular Board Meeting scheduled on Wednesday, February 08, 2017 - 10:00 a.m., at the NMHC Conference Room, Garapan, Saipan will resume on **Tuesday, February 21, 2017 - 9:00 a.m. at the NMHC Conference Room, Garapan, Saipan.** The public is welcome to submit written or oral comments regarding the agenda below. Individuals interested in attending the meeting and needing special accommodations are requested to contact NMHC in advance.

- PRELIMINARY MATTERS**
  - Call to Order
  - Swearing-in
  - Roll Call
  - Election of Officers
  - Adoption of Agenda
  - Adoption of Minutes
    - Special Board Meeting - July 18, 2016 / Resumed Special Board Meeting - August 31, 2016
    - Regular Board Meeting - October 6, 2016
- PUBLIC COMMENTS**
- CORPORATE DIRECTOR'S REPORT**
  - Divisional Updates
- OLD BUSINESS**
  - Garapan Annex Status Update
  - RD Settlement Update
  - Rota Land Exchange
  - Personnel Matters
  - Procurement Policy
  - Travel Policy
  - \$1 Million Funding for Loans to Saipan, Tinian, and Rota
  - Loan Delinquency Update
  - Previous Board Approved Motions
- NEW BUSINESS**
  - Section 8 Voucher Admin Plan Amendment
  - UHTC Program
    - Zen Homes, LLC Request for Additional Credits
    - Art Ridge Village Homes Request to Reduce Unit Number and Unit Mix
  - BankPacific Loan Modification
  - 2017-2018 QAP
  - Standing Committee
    - Ad Hoc Committee - Financial Committee, Personnel Committee, Housing Committee
    - Lease-to-Own Assistance Request
    - FY 2016 Audit Status
    - Management Reporting Policy
    - Board Meeting Minutes Policy
    - Dissemination of Outside Communication
    - Merit Salary Increase
- LEGAL COUNSEL'S PENDING/ONGOING REPORT**
- EXECUTIVE SESSION**
- OTHER MATTERS**
- ADJOURNMENT**

*(Note: Pursuant to Public Law 8-41, Section 13(a) (7) and Section 13(c), the Board may vote to meet in executive session.)*

/s/  
**IGNACIO L. PEREZ**  
Chairman of the Board

**Commonwealth Development Authority**  
2nd Floor CDA Bldg., Oleai, Saipan  
P.O. Box 502149, Saipan, MP 96950  
Tel: (670) 234-6245 Fax: (670) 235-7147  
Website: [www.developcnmi.com](http://www.developcnmi.com)

**EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY**

**POSITION VACANCY:** Administrative Specialist II, Classified Position  
**LOCATION:** Rota Office  
**ANNUAL SALARY:** \$16,858.38 - \$20,484.60  
**CLOSING DATE:** To Be Announced

**NATURE OF WORK**  
The position is under the supervision of the Office Manager, Saipan. The individual works in conjunction with Saipan personnel and require coordination with the various departments in order to accomplish a variety of responsibilities. This position is tasked with promoting CDA's mission in Rota. The position has some degree of independence such as the management of daily activities-revising workflow to suit the agency.

**GENERAL DUTIES:**

- Issues loan applications and explains basic application requirements.
- Organizes and coordinates CDA related functions and events.
- Organizes and coordinates deliveries and pick-ups and routes necessary documents for Board signature.
- Prepares and submits monthly activity report to Administration, Saipan.
- Receives and receipts all payments.
- Prepares and deposits collections on a daily basis.
- Prepares daily collection report and submits to Accounting Dept, Saipan.
- Submits daily receipts on a monthly basis to Accounting Dept. Saipan.
- Performs related work as assigned.

**QUALIFICATION and OTHER REQUIREMENTS / SKILLS**  
Any combination equivalent to Bachelor Degree plus (2) years of related work experience in office management or staff. Knowledge of modern office practices and modern office equipment; Knowledge of MS Office word processing and spreadsheet applications; Ability to express oneself effectively, orally and in writing; and have excellent organizational skills.

Detailed job description, qualification requirements and other information may be picked up, together with an employment application form, during regular working hours at the NMHC/CDA Office in Rota or may be obtained on CDA's website at [www.developcnmi.com](http://www.developcnmi.com).

**Applicants are requested to submit their application and supporting documents to the Office of Personnel Management in Rota.**

For inquiries, please contact Ms. Christy Kintol, Office Manager at (670) 234-6245 extension 310 or by e-mail at [c.kintol@developcnmi.com](mailto:c.kintol@developcnmi.com).

**FIESTA**  
Resort & SPA  
SAIPAN

Invites highly qualified US workers to join our Fiesta Resort and Spa, Saipan Team for the following vacant position:

**Controller**

**Job Duties/ Responsibilities:**

- This position provides the President, the Resort, the General Manager and all Division/Department Heads with accurate, timely and relevant financial data which will increase the management effectiveness for each work unit.
- Oversees the financial activities of the Resorts, ensuring that assets are safeguarded and that operation systems and internal controls are efficient and effective.

**Qualifications/ Requirements:**

- Bachelor's Degree in Finance/Accounting or other related discipline is required (or equivalent combination of education and experience).
- At least 5 years extensive experience in Finance and Accounting in a hospital-ity environment.
- Proficient in the use of SAP R3 Financial and Controlling (FICO) software.
- Must have at least 5 years of progressive hotel management experience.
- Job requires producing accurate reports, meeting deadlines, accepting and giving higher management and team feedback and dealing calmly and effectively with high stress situations.
- The individual in this position is required to behave and conduct herself/himself in a professional manner to promote a positive image of APHI. This includes the use of judgment and discretion that all conduct and behavior is in line with Resort guidelines.

Interested applicants may send their resumes to [fiesta\\_hr@fiestasaipan.com](mailto:fiesta_hr@fiestasaipan.com). To be considered, applications must be submitted not later than March 01, 2016. Background checks and pre-employment drug testing will be required prior to employment.



Nation

Trump slams intel officials, media over Flynn and Russia

WASHINGTON (AP)—President Donald Trump on Wednesday blamed the media and “illegally leaked” intelligence information for bringing down his national security adviser Michael Flynn, one day after the White House said Trump had asked Flynn to resign because he misled Vice President Mike Pence about his contacts with Russia.

Flynn’s ouster has sparked a new swirl of controversy over Trump’s potential ties to Moscow. Flynn resigned Monday night—at the behest of Trump, the White House later said—after reports that he had discussed sanctions with Russia’s ambassador to the U.S. before the inauguration, despite previously denying those conversations to Pence and other top officials.

But in Trump’s first public

comments on Flynn, he appeared to side with his former aide, saying it was “really a sad thing that he was treated so badly.”

Trump is said to favor Vice Admiral Robert Harward, a former Navy SEAL, as his next national security adviser, according to a White House official. Harward met with top White House officials last week and has the backing of Defense Secretary Jim Mattis.

Flynn’s ouster was a blow to a White House struggling to find its footing in Trump’s first weeks in office. The questions about Russia only deepened late Tuesday when The New

York Times reported that U.S. agencies had intercepted phone calls last year between Russian intelligence officials and members of Trump’s 2016 campaign team. Current and former U.S. officials who spoke to the Times anonymously said they found no evidence that the Trump campaign was working with the Russians on hacking or other efforts to influence the election.

Trump didn’t directly address the veracity of the report during a news conference with Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, but lashed out at what he called the “criminal act” of leaking information.

Earlier Wednesday, Trump tweeted that “classified information is illegally given out by ‘intelligence’ like candy. Very un-American!”

The president ignored shouted questions about whether his advisers were in touch with Russian officials. His spokesman Sean Spicer said he wasn’t aware of any such contacts and panned the Times report for relying on “unnamed sources.”

Democrats called for an independent investigation into Trump’s Russia ties and urged Republicans to join them.

“This is a moment for Republicans to put country ahead

of party,” Connecticut Sen. Chris Murphy said. “There’s only one or two times like this in your political career where you face a moment like this where what’s good for your country may not be good for your party.”

GOP lawmakers, led by Majority Leader Mitch McConnell, resisted, saying that the existing congressional committees will continue their investigations into Rus-

sian interference in the presidential election.

The chairmen of the House committees on oversight and the judiciary sent a letter Wednesday to the Justice Department’s inspector general urging him to investigate the leaks that led to Flynn’s removal. “We have serious concerns about the potential inadequate protection of classified information here,” Reps. Jason Chaffetz and Bob Goodlatte wrote.

Flynn resigns

National security adviser Michael Flynn has resigned following reports he misled Vice President Mike Pence about contacts with Russian Ambassador Sergey Kislyak.



Leading up to resignation

• **Nov. 18, 2016:** Trump names Michael Flynn as the next U.S. national security adviser.

• **Dec. 29, 2016:** President Barack Obama announces sanctions expelling 35 Russian diplomats for the country’s alleged interference in the U.S. presidential elections.

• **Dec. 29, 2016:** A U.S. official tells The Associated Press that Flynn is in frequent contact with Russian Ambassador Sergey Kislyak.

• **Jan. 22:** The Wall Street Journal reports Flynn is under investigation by U.S. counterintelligence.

• **Feb. 8:** Flynn, in an interview with the Washington Post, categorically denies discussing sanctions with Kislyak.

• **Feb. 11-12:** Trump is silent about Flynn and the latest allegations during a weekend trip to Mar-a-Lago, Trump’s Florida resort.

• **Feb. 13:** White House officials send contradictory messages about Flynn’s job status. Senior aide Kellyanne Conway remarks that Trump has “full confidence,” Sean Spicer says the president was “evaluating the situation.”

• **Feb. 13:** Michael Flynn resigns. In a resignation letter, Flynn said he gave Pence and others “incomplete information” about his calls with Russia’s ambassador to the U.S.

Source: AP, BBC, ABACAPRESS.COM  
Graphic: Staff, Tribune News Service



Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands  
Office of the Secretary of Public Works

2nd Floor Oleai Joeten Commercial Center, Saipan, MP 96950



INVITATION FOR BIDS  
DPW-17-IFB-007

AS PERDIDO ROAD ANTI-SKID, SAIPAN

Governor Ralph Dlg. Torres, and Lt. Governor Victor B. Hooq, through the Department of Public Works (DPW) is soliciting sealed bids for the As Perdido Road Anti-Skid, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI).

The project package will be available on or after **February 17, 2017** at Technical Services Division, Department of Public Works, located on Second Floor, Oleai Joeten Commercial Center, San Jose, Saipan. A non-refundable payment of **One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00)** is required for each set. Payment must be made to the CNMI Treasurer and a receipt of payment must be presented when obtaining the Scope of Work at the DPW Technical Services Division.

All interested bidders are also required to include Insurer Clearance Certification (ICC) in their bid packages in order to bid on this project. The ICC can be obtained at the Department of Commerce/Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC) on Capitol Hill.

Bidding procedures shall be in full compliance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations currently in effect.”

Breach of Ethical Standard

- **Gratuities.** It shall be a breach of ethical standards for any person to offer, give or agree to give any employee or former employee, or for any employee or former employee to solicit, demand, accept, or agree to accept from another person, a gratuity or an offer of employment in connection with any decision, approval, disapproval, recommendation, preparation of any part of a program requirement or a purchase request, influencing the content of any specification or procurement standard, rendering of advice, investigation, auditing or in any other advisory capacity in any proceeding or application, request for ruling, determination, claim or controversy, or other particular matter, pertaining to any program requirement or a contract or subcontract or to any solicitation or proposal therefor. **NMIAC Section 70-30.3-725 (a)**
- **Kickbacks.** It shall be a breach of ethical standards for any payment, gratuity or offer of employment to be made by or on behalf of a subcontractor under a contract to the prime contractor or higher tier subcontractor or any person associated therewith as an inducement for the award of a subcontractor or order. **NMIAC 70-30.3-725 (b)**
- **Contingent fees.** It shall be a breach of ethical standards for a person to be retained, or to retain a person, to solicit or secure government contracts upon an agreement or understanding for a commission, percentage, brokerage or contingent fee, except for retention of bona fide employees or bona fide established commercial selling agencies for the purpose of securing business. **NMIAC 70-30.3-730**

There will be a **Pre-bid Conference** for this project on **March 8, 2017 9:00 a.m.** local time at the Department of Public Works Conference Room 2nd Floor, Oleai Joeten Commercial Center Office, Saipan. The Prospective bidders are encouraged to familiarize themselves with the site. All questions regarding this project must be submitted in writing no later than 4:30 p.m. local time on **March 22, 2017 to Mr. Anthony A. Camacho, Director of Technical Services Division**, 2nd Floor, Oleai Joeten Commercial Center, Saipan or fax to (670) 234-3547. Response to questions shall be shared with prospective bidders.

Prospective bidders should examine and review the invitation for bids with care. If it should appear to a prospective bidder that the performance of the work under the contract or any of the matters relative thereto is not sufficiently described or explained in the invitation for bids, or that any discrepancy exists between different parts of the invitation for bids, or that full intent of the invitation for bids is not clear, then the prospective bidder shall submit a written request for clarification no later than ten (10) working days before the scheduled bid opening at 4:30 pm to **Mr. Anthony A. Camacho, Director of Technical Services Division**, 2nd Floor, Oleai Joeten Commercial Center, Saipan or fax to (670) 234-3547.

The prospective bidder shall examine carefully the site of the proposed work and the invitation for bids before submitting a bid. The Contracting Officer (CO) may, upon recommendation of the Contracting Officer’s Technical Representative (COTR), issue an addendum notifying all prospective bidders known to have received an invitation for bids, or if issued after the deadline for submission of the notice of intention to bid, to those persons who submitted such notice, of any changes to the invitation for bids. The Department of Public Works will make every reasonable attempt to notify all persons who obtained the invitation for bids from the Technical Services Division by telephone to pick up the addendum or if the CO chooses, the addendum may be mailed or delivered personally or by facsimile machine. If the bid proposal requires the acknowledgment of addenda, the prospective bidder shall indicate the date of each addendum in the space provided. **It shall be the prospective bidder’s responsibility to confirm the existence of any addendum by telephoning the COTR at (670) 234-9828/9838 no later than ten (10) Calendar days before the scheduled bid opening.**

Sealed bids must be marked “**DPW-17-IFB-007**”. For bidders within the CNMI, an original and two copies of sealed bids must be submitted to the Office of the Director of Procurement and Supply, located at the former Emergency Management Office, Ascension Drive, Building No. 1301, Capitol Hill, Saipan, no later than **10:00 a.m. local time, March 28, 2017**. Bidders located outside of the CNMI may obtain an additional Seven (7) working days for receipt of their bids by submitting a Notice of Intent to bid. Notices of Intent to bid must be received by the Director of Procurement and Supply no later than **10:00 a.m. local time, March 28, 2017**, and must be transmitted via facsimile to (670) 664-1515, or via e-mail to [procurement@pticom.com](mailto:procurement@pticom.com). For bidders located outside the CNMI, an original and two copies of sealed bids must be postmarked by the U.S. Postal Service or the official government postal service of a foreign country no later than **March 28, 2017** and the BID documents must be received at the Office of the Director of Procurement and Supply no later than **April 7, 2017**. Note that failure to submit the required number of copies may be cause for rejection of a bid.

Bids will be publicly opened and read at the Office of the Director of Procurement and Supply, located at the former Emergency Management Office, Ascension Drive, Building No. 1301, Capitol Hill, Saipan, at **10:00 a.m. local time, April 11, 2017**. However, if no notices of intent to bid were received from bidders outside the CNMI, bids will be opened at **10:00 a.m. local time, on March 28, 2017**.

For bids greater than Twenty-Five Thousand Dollars (**\$25,000.00**) a bid security of fifteen (15%) of the bid amount must accompany the bid. **Bid security shall be on a bid bond, in cash, by certified check, cashiers check or other form acceptable to the government. A surety company shall hold the certificate of authority from the U.S. Secretary of the Treasury as an acceptable surety or other surety acceptable to the Attorney General. Surety requiring approval of the Attorney General must be pre-approved prior to bid submission.** Checks must be made payable to the CNMI Treasurer, with the name of the bidder and a notation on the face of the check: “Credit Account No. 44660”. If a bid bond is submitted it must be accompanied by an Insurer Clearance Certification (ICC).

The bidder submitting the lowest responsive bid will be subject to a responsibility determination in conformance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations **§70-30.3-245**. The responsible bidder submitting the lowest responsive bid will be awarded a contract with the CNMI Government and will be required to deliver Performance and Payment bonds, each equal to 100% of the contract price for contracts greater than \$25,000.00. Prior to the execution of the contract, the selected contractor shall submit:

- a) A current license from the bonding company showing that it has authority to issue bond in the CNMI; and
- b) A certification from the bonding company that the unencumbered value of its assets (exclusive of all outstanding commitments on other bond obligations) exceed the penal amount of each bond.

A contractor submitting an unacceptable payment or performance bond may be permitted a reasonable time, as determined by the P&S Director, to substitute an acceptable bond prior to executing a contract.

Acceptable assets are only:

- 1) Cash
- 2) US Gov’t Securities
- 3) Stocks and Bonds traded on US Security Exchange
- 4) Real Property owned in fee simple in US; and
- 5) Irrevocable Letters of Credit

Performance time for completion of this project is **Sixty (60) calendar days** upon issuance of Notice to Proceed. Liquidated damages for delays beyond the established completion date will be assessed at the rate of **Three Hundred Dollars (US\$300.00)** for each and every day the work is delayed beyond the established completion date.

All bid documents received shall become the sole property of the CNMI Government. The Government reserves the right to reject any or all bids and to waive any imperfection in a bid proposal that does not affect the elements of price, quantity, and delivery of the bid, in the best interest of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

JAMES A. ADA  
Secretary of Public Works

HERMAN S. SABLAN  
Director of Procurement & Supply



COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY

Main Office: Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport  
P.O. Box 501055, Saipan, MP 96950-1055  
Tel.: (670) 236-6500/1 • Fax: (670) 234-5962  
E-mail: [cpa.admin@pticom.com](mailto:cpa.admin@pticom.com) • Website: [www.cpa.gov.mp](http://www.cpa.gov.mp)

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL

Procurement, Delivery, Training and Certification of Brand New  
Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA) Equipment  
For the Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport  
Project No. CPA-RFP-006-17

The Commonwealth Ports Authority is soliciting sealed proposals from qualified companies to procure and deliver brand new self-contained breathing (SCBA) equipment for the Aircraft Rescue and Fire Fighting (ARFF) Departments at the Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, the Tinian International Airport and the Benjamin Taisacan Manglona International Airport. Proposals are to include procurement, delivery, training and certification of equipment to each respective airport.

The equipment shall include the quantities and details and product specifications as provided within the scope of work. The scope and product data are available for pick up at the CPA Administration Office.

The proposals shall include the following:

1. Letter of interest;
2. Team Members;
3. Related past project performance (include commendations or certifications, if available);
4. Available resources to accomplish the project;
5. Cost proposal (in itemized SOW format); and
6. Valid Business License.

The contract period for procurement, delivery and certification will be based on the bidder’s proposal. However, liquidated damages of \$500.00 shall be assessed the winning bidder for each calendar day the completion of the project is delayed beyond the acceptance date without approved excuse by CPA.

One original and four copies of all proposals are to be submitted in a sealed envelope marked with the respective RFP description to the office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Ports Authority, 2nd floor of the Arrival Building, Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, no later than 4:30 p.m., FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 2017.

Each proposal shall be accompanied by a bid bond issued by a CPA approved surety company, a certified check, or a cashier’s check in the amount no less than ten percent (10%) of the total proposal amount. Checks shall be made payable to the Commonwealth Ports Authority.

All bidders responding to this RFP shall take into account any and all taxes that will be charged to the proposer awarded the procurement, including excise tax and associated shipping costs.

The procurement is being financed by funds from the Commonwealth Ports Authority. The contract award, if it is to be made, will be made within ninety (90) calendar days from the receipt of proposals. CPA reserves the right to hold the contract award for one hundred twenty (120) calendar days from the date of receipt of proposals.

This procurement is made in accordance with the CPA Procurement Rules and Regulations Section 40-50-225. Proposals will be evaluated and scored based on the following criteria:

|   |     |
|---|-----|
| 1. Total cost for equipment procurement, delivery, training and certification | 40% |
| 2. Timeframe for delivery, programming, training and certification            | 30% |
| 3. Experience of the firm on similar or related systems                       | 15% |
| 4. Qualifications of the principal(s) and assigned staff                      | 15% |

Questions and inquiries regarding this Request for Proposals shall be submitted in writing at least fourteen (14) days prior to proposal submission date and may be delivered to the Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Ports Authority, at the Saipan International Airport, faxed to (670) 234-5962 or emailed to Assistant ARFF Chief William Camacho at [bcamacho@cpa.gov.mp](mailto:bcamacho@cpa.gov.mp).

CPA reserves the right to reject any or all proposals submitted for: (a) any of the reasons set forth in this Request for Proposals; or (b) any of the reasons set forth in the CPA Procurement Rules and Regulations regarding bid rejection or cancellation; or (c) sufficient justification exists that awarding the project contract would not be in the best interest of CPA. CPA further reserves the right to waive any defects in said proposals if in its sole opinion to do so would be in CPA’s best interest.

All proposals shall become property of the Commonwealth Ports Authority.

/s/ CHRISTOPHER S. TENORIO  
Executive Director

Date: January 18, 2017



Asia

Malaysia arrests 2nd suspect in N. Korean’s death

KUALA LUMPUR, Malaysia (AP)—Malaysian police arrested a second woman Thursday in the death of Kim Jong Nam, the half brother of North Korea’s leader who was reportedly poisoned this week by two female assassins as he waited for a flight in Malaysia.

Police chief Khalid Abu Bakar confirmed the latest arrest to the national Bernama news agency and said a statement would be released soon.

Investigators are trying to shed light on a death that set off waves of speculation over whether North Korea dispatched a hit squad to kill a man known for his drinking, gambling and complicated family life.

JAKARTA, Indonesia (AP)—Indonesia’s foreign

ministry says it’s trying to verify the nationality of a woman with an Indonesian passport who was arrested in Malaysia on Thursday for suspected involvement in the killing of the North Korean leader’s half brother.

Lalu Muhammad Iqbal, Director of Indonesian Citizen Protection at the Foreign Ministry, said Thursday that millions of Indonesians work in neighboring Malaysia and the passport seized by Malaysian police could have been lost or stolen.

He says, “this is not the first time that an Indonesian reportedly committed a crime just based on the bearer of an Indonesian passport.”

Malaysian police have now arrested two women in the death of Kim Jong Nam,

who was reportedly poisoned this week by a pair of female assassins as he waited for a flight in Malaysia.

Medical workers completed an autopsy late Wednesday, but it was not immediately clear if or when Malaysia would release the findings publicly.

North Korea had objected to the autopsy and asked for Kim Jong Nam’s body to be returned; Malaysia went ahead with the procedure anyway as the North did not submit a formal protest, said Abdul Samah Mat, a senior Malaysian police official.

Also Wednesday, police arrested the first suspect in the case, a woman carrying Vietnamese travel documents bearing the name Doan Thi Huong. She was picked up at the bud-

get terminal of Kuala Lumpur International Airport, where Kim Jong Nam fell ill on Monday morning. It was not immediately clear whether the passport was genuine.

She was identified using earlier surveillance video from the airport, police said.

Still photos of the video, confirmed as authentic by police, showed a woman in a skirt and long-sleeved white T-shirt with “LOL” emblazoned across the front.

Kim Jong Nam, who was 45 or 46, was estranged from his younger brother, North Korean leader Kim Jong Un, and had been living abroad for years. He reportedly fell out of favor when he was caught trying to enter Japan on a false passport in 2001, saying he wanted to visit Tokyo Disneyland.

According to two senior Malaysian government officials, who spoke on condition of anonymity because the case involves sensitive diplomacy, the elder Kim died en route to a hospital on Monday after suddenly falling ill at the airport’s budget terminal.

He told medical workers before he died that he had been

attacked with a chemical spray at the airport, the Malaysian officials said. Multiple South Korean media reports, citing unidentified sources, said two women believed to be North Korean agents killed him with some kind of poison before fleeing in a taxi.

Police said they were hunting for more suspects. No further details were released.

Since taking power in late 2011, Kim Jong Un has executed or purged a number of high-level government officials in what the South Korean government has described as a “reign of terror.”

South Korea’s spy agency, the National Intelligence Service, said Wednesday that North Korea had been trying for five years to kill Kim Jong Nam. The NIS did not definitively say that North Korea was behind the killing, just that it was presumed to be a North Korean operation, according to lawmakers who briefed reporters about the closed-door meeting with the spy officials.

The NIS also cited a “genuine” attempt by North Korea to kill Kim Jong Nam in 2012, the lawmakers said. The NIS told them that Kim Jong Nam sent

a letter to Kim Jong Un in April 2012, after the assassination attempt, begging for the lives of himself and his family.

The letter said: “I hope you cancel the order for the punishment of me and my family. We have nowhere to go, nowhere to hide, and we know that the only way to escape is committing suicide.”

Although Kim Jong Nam had been originally tipped by some outsiders as a possible successor to his late dictator father, Kim Jong Il, others thought that was unlikely because he lived outside the country, including recently in Macau.

He also frequented casinos, five-star hotels and traveled around Asia, with little say in North Korean affairs.

But his attempt to visit Tokyo Disneyland reportedly soured North Korea’s leadership on his potential as a successor. Kim Jong Nam had said he had no political ambitions, although he was publicly critical of the North Korean regime and his half brother’s legitimacy in the past. In 2010, he was quoted in Japanese media as saying he opposed dynastic succession in North Korea.

PUBLIC MEETING

The Office of the Governor, will file an application with the USDA Rural Development for financial assistance for the acquisition of computer equipment and other technology devices. A public meeting for comments will be held at 4:30 pm on Wednesday, February 22, 2017 at the Governor’s Conference Room, Juan A. Sablan Memorial Building Capitol Hill.

ASIAN BRIEFS

PH president asked to release bank account details

MANILA, Philippines (AP)—An opposition senator has pressed Philippine President Rodrigo Duterte to publicly release details of his

bank accounts to disprove allegations that he had large sums of undeclared money. Sen. Antonio Trillanes IV first alleged Duterte had unexplained wealth during the presidential campaign last year. He told a news conference Thursday that he was raising the issue again because Duterte has not yet bared details of the more than 2 billion pesos (\$40 million) he allegedly kept in bank accounts as a former city mayor. Presidential spokesman Ernesto Abella says Duterte will not release those bank details “in response to grandstanding” but so as part of a legal process.

(AP)—Two earthquakes rocked an area of Indonesia’s Aceh province devastated by a quake in December, damaging houses and causing injuries. The quakes measured at magnitude 5.1 and 5.6 by the United States Geological Survey hit in quick succession not long after 3 a.m. Thursday. The Indonesian Red Cross said two houses collapsed in Pidie Jaya near the epicenter and at least nine people were injured in Trianggadeng district. Power was knocked out in several areas. The magnitude 6.5 earthquake on Dec. 7 earthquake killed more than 100 people and destroyed or damaged more than 11,000 buildings, mostly homes. Indonesia’s meteorology and geophysics agency said there was no potential for a tsunami from Thursday’s quakes.

Quakes rock area of Indonesian province devastated in Dec

JAKARTA, Indonesia

MICHAEL A. WHITE, ESQ. F0122  
THE LAW OFFICES OF MICHAEL A. WHITE, LLC  
POST OFFICE BOX 5222  
SAIPAN, MARIANA ISLANDS 96950  
TEL.: (670) 234-6547  
FAX: (670) 234-9537

ATTORNEYS FOR Plaintiff

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION, )  
 )  
Plaintiff, )  
 )  
EDMOND K. RABAUJMAN ) CIVIL ACTION NO.:  
and the ESTATE OF AUGUSTA ) 15-0138  
S. RABAUJMAN )  
 )  
Defendants )

NOTICE OF SALE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that, pursuant to an Order issued by the Court in this matter on February 6, 2017, I will sell, at public auction, to the highest bidder, on the terms and conditions set forth hereinbelow, all of the right, title, and interest of Defendants in and to the following property: Lot no. 011 G 75, containing an area of 770 square meters, more or less, situated in Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands, as shown on the Division of Lands and Surveys Official Cadastral Plat no. 011 G 03, dated December 1, 1993, Commonwealth Recorder's File no. 93-4411, dated December 16, 1993, the description therein being incorporated herein by reference.

Date, Time and Place of Sale. The sale will be held on Friday, March 17, 2017, at the hour of 1:30 p.m., at The Law Offices of Michael A. White, LLC, Joeten Center, Susupe, Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands. The sale will be open to the general public.

Terms and Conditions of Sale. The Terms and Conditions of Sale may be obtained from the undersigned, either prior to or at the sale. These terms and conditions shall govern the conduct of the sale.

DATED, this 9th day of February, 2017:

/s/ MICHAEL A. WHITE, Auctioneer

ROBERT T. TORRES, ESQ.  
Attorney at Law  
P.O. Box 503758 CK  
Plata Drive, Whispering Palms (Chalan Kiya)  
Saipan, MP 96950  
Tel.: 234-7859  
Fax: 234-5750

Attorney for Petitioner Armando Villafuerte

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT FOR THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

CIVIL ACTION NO.: 16-0252-CV

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF -v- )  
 )  
ANGELINA BORJA PEREDO aka ANGELINA P. RIOS, )  
 )  
Deceased. ) Date: April 20, 2017  
 ) Time: 9:00 a.m.  
 ) Judge: Camacho

TO: THE GENERAL PUBLIC, ANY HEIRS, CLAIMANTS, OR CREDITORS OF THE LATE ANGELINA BORJA PEREDO aka ANGELINA P. RIOS OR HER ESTATE:

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Armando Villafuerte has petitioned the Superior Court of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands to issue Letters of Administration for the Estate of Angelina Borja Peredo aka Angelina P. Rios, the deceased. The attorney for Petitioner is Robert T. Torres, Attorney at Law, whose address is Plata Drive, Chalan Kiya, P.O. Box 503758, Saipan, MP 96950.

The hearing on the Petition is scheduled to be heard on April 20, 2017, at 9:00 a.m. at the Superior Court of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. All interested persons or entities should appear at this hearing.

Any and all persons, creditors, or entities having claims against the deceased or his Estate are hereby required by law to file their claims with the Clerk of Court within sixty (60) days of this publication or the claim(s) will be baited. A copy of your claim should also be sent to ROBERT T. TORRES, Attorney at Law, at the address herein-above indicated.

Dated this 23rd day of December, 2016.

/s/ Clerk of Court  
Deputy Clerk of Court

ROBERT T. TORRES, ESQ.  
Attorney at Law  
P.O. Box 503758 CK  
Plata Drive, Whispering Palms (Chalan Kiya)  
Saipan, MP 96950  
Tel.: 234-7859  
Fax: 234-5750

Attorney for Petitioner Dora Anne Inos Deleon Guerrero

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT FOR THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

CIVIL ACTION NO.: 17-0044

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF -v- )  
 )  
EULOGIO SONGAO INOS, )  
 )  
Deceased. ) Date: April 27, 2017  
 ) Time: 9:00 a.m.  
 ) Judge: Camacho

TO: THE GENERAL PUBLIC, ANY HEIRS, CLAIMANTS, OR CREDITORS OF THE LATE EULOGIO SONGAO INOS OR HIS ESTATE:

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Dora Anne Inos Deleon Guerrero has petitioned the Superior Court of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands to issue Letters of Administration for the Estate of Eulogio Songao Inos, the deceased. The attorney for Petitioner is Robert T. Torres, Attorney at Law, whose address is Plata Drive, Chalan Kiya, P.O. Box 503758, Saipan, MP 96950.

The hearing on the Petition by Dora Anne Inos Deleon Guerrero, as Petitioner, is scheduled to be heard on April 27, 2017, at 9:00 a.m. at the Superior Court of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. All interested persons or entities should appear at this hearing.

Any and all persons, creditors, or entities having claims against the deceased or his Estate are hereby required by law to file their claims with the Clerk of Court within sixty (60) days of this publication or the claim(s) will be baited. A copy of your claim should also be sent to ROBERT T. TORRES, Attorney at Law, at the address herein-above indicated.

Dated this 8 day of February, 2017.

/s/ Clerk of Court  
Deputy Clerk of Court

ROBERT T. TORRES, ESQ.  
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Attorney for Petitioner Dora Anne Inos Deleon Guerrero

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT FOR THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

CIVIL ACTION NO.: 17-0045

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF -v- )  
 )  
DOLORES AGULTO INOS, )  
 )  
Deceased. ) Date: April 27, 2017  
 ) Time: 9:00 a.m.  
 ) Judge: Camacho

TO: THE GENERAL PUBLIC, ANY HEIRS, CLAIMANTS, OR CREDITORS OF THE LATE DOLORES AGULTO INOS OR HER ESTATE:

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Dora Anne Inos Deleon Guerrero has petitioned the Superior Court of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands to issue Letters of Administration for the Estate of Dolores Agulto Inos, the deceased. The attorney for Petitioner is Robert T. Torres, Attorney at Law, whose address is Plata Drive, Chalan Kiya, P.O. Box 503758, Saipan, MP 96950.

The hearing on the Petition by Dora Anne Inos Deleon Guerrero, as Petitioner, is scheduled to be heard on April 27, 2017, at 9:00 a.m. at the Superior Court of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. All interested persons or entities should appear at this hearing.

Any and all persons, creditors, or entities having claims against the deceased or his Estate are hereby required by law to file their claims with the Clerk of Court within sixty (60) days of this publication or the claim(s) will be baited. A copy of your claim should also be sent to ROBERT T. TORRES, Attorney at Law, at the address herein-above indicated.

Dated this 8 day of February, 2017.

/s/ Clerk of Court  
Deputy Clerk of Court

PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY  
Commonwealth Healthcare Corporation

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL  
RFP 17- CHCC-13

SUBMISSION DEADLINE: FEBRUARY 24, 2017 TIME: 4:30PM  
MANDATORY PRE-BID MEETING: FEBRUARY 8, 2017 TIME: 10:00AM  
CHCC CONFERENCE ROOM #3

“FOR OUTPATIENT PHARMACY –  
COMMONWEALTH HEALTHCARE CORPORATION”

COPIES OF THE RFP PACKET MAY BE PICKED UP AT CHCC PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY DIVISION - MEDICAL SUPPLY STORAGE FACILITY LOWER BASE SAIPAN, DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

THE CHCC RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY AND ALL PROPOSALS AND TO WAIVE ANY IMPERFECTIONS IN ANY PROPOSAL, IF TO DO SO SHALL BE IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE CHCC. ALL PROPOSALS SHALL BECOME THE EXCLUSIVE PROPERTY OF THE COMMONWEALTH HEALTHCARE CORPORATION.

/s/ ESTHER L. MUNA  
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

/s/ JESUS D. BABAUTA  
ACTING CHCC DIRECTOR OF P&S



# World

## Trump charts a new Mideast course

**WASHINGTON** (AP)—Charting a striking new course for the Middle East, President Donald Trump on Wednesday withheld clear support for an independent Palestine and declared he could endorse a one-nation solution to the long and deep dispute between Palestinians and Israel.

The American president, signaling a new era of comity between the U.S. and Israel after rocky relations under President Barack Obama, said he was more interested in an agreement that leads to peace than in any particular path to get there. Standing beside Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, Trump broke not only with recent U.S. presidents but also distanced the United States from the prevailing position of much of the world.

While Trump urged Netanyahu to “hold off” on Jewish settlement construction in territory the Palestinians claim for their future state, he offered unwavering support for Israel, a pledge he appeared to substantiate with his vague comments about the shape of any agreement.



**AP**  
President Donald Trump and Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu participate in a joint news conference in the East Room of the White House in Washington, Wednesday, Feb. 15, 2017.

U.N. Secretary-General Antonio Guterres said: “There is no Plan B to the situation between Palestinians and Israelis but a two-state solution. ... Everything must be done to preserve that possibility.”

At one point Wednesday, Trump noted the need for compromise in achieving any Mideast peace. Netanyahu interjected: “Both sides.”

On terrorism and other matters, there appeared little daylight between the leaders.

Echoing language used by Trump over a need to combat “radical Islamic extremism,” Netanyahu said that for peace to be sustainable, two “prerequisites” must be met: “Recognition of the Jewish state and Israel’s security needs west of the Jordan” River.

While a two-state solution would involve Israel ceding occupied territory that is strategically and religiously significant, many in the country believe a single binational state would be even more difficult to maintain. It would mean granting millions of Palestinians citizenship and voting rights, threatening Israel’s Jewish majority and its Jewish character.

Trump’s campaign platform made no mention of a Palestinian state, and his inner circle included allies of the West Bank settler movement. A delegation of settlement leaders was invited to Trump’s inauguration.

### Pro-government tribal leader among dead in US raid in Yemen

**CAIRO** (AP)—The main figure killed in last month’s U.S. raid in Yemen targeting al-Qaida was a tribal leader who was allied to the country’s U.S.- and Saudi-backed president and had been enlisted to fight Yemen’s Shiite rebels, according to military officials, tribal figures and relatives.

The government connections of tribal chief Sheikh Abdel-Raouf al-Dhahab raise further questions over the planning of a raid that turned into a heavy firefight with casualties on both sides.

One U.S. Navy Seal was killed, six American soldiers were wounded and a military aircraft suffered a hard landing and had to be destroyed in the assault, which took place days after President Donald Trump’s inauguration.

Survivors and witnesses say at least 25 Yemenis were killed, including 10 children and nine women, raising outrage in Yemen and prompting the government to ask Washington for a review of the Jan. 29 assault on the tiny village of Yakla.

The raid illustrated the murkiness in distinguishing al-Qaida in Yemen, where the terror group has built up ties of one degree or another with the country’s many

tribes - and has often used anger over civilians killed in American airstrikes to gain recruits.

Al-Qaida has also emerged as a de facto ally of the government of President Abed Rabbo Mansour Hadi and his backers Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates against the Shiite rebels in a grueling civil war that has wreaked devastation, caused widespread hunger and killed more than 10,000 since late 2014. The result has been a tolerance for the militants after several years of the government cracking down on them.

In Yakla, there was some al-Qaida presence. At least six of those killed in the raid were al-Qaida fighters, according to a list put out by the group’s leader, though some witnesses said they arrived on the scene after the battle started. Also, a female Saudi al-Qaida militant who fled her homeland in 2013 was being sheltered in the home of a tribesman whose son was also a member, according to tribal leaders and officials.

But all appeared to be low-level operatives. Also among the dead was an elderly sheikh trying to win the release of a fellow tribesman abducted by the terror network.

While it once appeared that a two-state solution was the “easier of the two” options for the Palestinians and Israel, Trump said he’d be open to alternatives. “I’m looking at two-state and one-state, and I like the one that both parties like,” he told reporters. “I can live with either one.”

The United States has formally backed the two-state solution as official policy since 2002, when President George W. Bush said in the White House Rose Garden that his vision was “two states, living side by side in peace and security.”

In practice, the U.S. already

had embraced the policy informally. President Bill Clinton, who oversaw the Oslo Accords in the 1990s that were envisioned as a stepping stone to Palestinian statehood, said before leaving office that resolution to the conflict required a viable Palestinian state.

Separately on Wednesday, Palestinian leader Mahmoud Abbas called on Netanyahu to end settlement building and expressed “willingness to resume a credible peace process.” Also on Wednesday, CIA chief Mike Pompeo secretly held talks in the West Bank with Abbas, the first high-level meeting be-

tween the Palestinian leader and a Trump administration official, senior Palestinian officials said. The White House wouldn’t comment on the meeting.

All serious peace negotiations in recent decades have assumed the emergence of an independent Palestine. The alternatives appear to offer dimmer prospects for peace, given Palestinian demands for statehood. Dozens of countries, including the U.S., reaffirmed their support for a two-state accord at an international conference in Paris last month, before Trump’s inauguration.

In Cairo on Wednesday,

### Russians remain patient for thaw with US under Trump

**MOSCOW** (AP)—As questions over the Trump administration’s contacts with Russia roil U.S. politics, the Kremlin is taking a decidedly measured approach, carefully weighing what it says to avoid jeopardizing a chance for better relations between Moscow and Washington.

This same patience is evident in Russian state media, helping to temper public expectations of the man who entered the White House with a friendly posture toward President Vladimir Putin.

Opinion polls have shown that the initial public euphoria in Russia after President Donald Trump’s victory has given way to a more sober mood.

Last week, Putin used a visit by the president of Slovenia to raise the possibility of meeting Trump in the homeland of his wife, Melania. But he acknowl-

edged it will take time for Trump to finish forming his team before both sides can set a time and place for such a summit.

“No one here is losing patience, because there haven’t been any excessive expectations,” said Alexander Baunov, an analyst with the Carnegie Moscow Center. “No one expected Trump to make some incredible moves on the Russian track in two or three weeks. Things here are viewed from a far more pessimistic, temporizing perspective.”

State-controlled broadcasters have dampened public anticipation of a warming in Russia-U.S. ties with daily reporting on a host of challenges for Trump, including the resignation of National Security Adviser Michael Flynn.

Yelena Sizova, a 47-year-old teacher, said she believes

any possible steps toward a rapprochement with the U.S. will be blocked by Trump’s foes in Congress.

“My feeling is that we won’t get anything good from him,” she said.

Russia-U.S. relations plunged to their lowest point in decades under former President Barack Obama because of the crisis in Ukraine, the war in Syria and the allegations of Russia’s hacking of the Democrats.

Compared with Hillary Clinton’s hawkish tone on Russia during the campaign, Trump’s promises to repair relations and cooperate with Moscow on fighting international terrorism have fueled expectations of a positive change.

Baunov argues it’s wrong to assert that there is widespread adulation of Trump among or-

dinary Russians.

“There is no great enthusiasm about him; there is just a feeling of relief,” he said. “While in the United States he is perceived as a conduit of Russian influence, no one in Russia sees him as such.”

Maria Katasonova, a pro-Kremlin political activist, said many Russians shuddered at the prospect of a Clinton victory because they hold her responsible for the breakdown in ties as secretary of state.

“Her policy has led to the worst period in Russia-U.S. relations since the Cold War,” Katasonova said. “That’s why people have pinned big hopes on Trump. The Russians who are interested in politics and geopolitics see Trump as a person with whom it will be possible to try to improve relations between our countries.”



# Focus

**JERUSALEM (AP)—**The Trump administration appears to be easing away from longstanding U.S. support for Palestinian statehood as the preferred outcome of Middle East peace efforts, which may please some allies of Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu in Israel. But the alternatives are few, and each comes with daunting and combustible complications, including for Israel itself.

The idea of two states in the Holy Land—a Jewish Israel and an Arab Palestine—rests on a particular logic: There are two quite different peoples of roughly equal size living between the Mediterranean Sea and the Jordan River; each wants their own nation-state to control and dominate numerically; each has shown tenacity toward this goal.

This would require Israel to let go of most and maybe all of the territory it captured in the 1967 war, when it completed its takeover of all the land that British colonizers abandoned in 1948. That includes the highly strategic West Bank, where there are now islands of Palestinian autonomy, scattered Jewish settlements and overriding Israeli military control; the eastern part of Jerusalem, which Israel has fully annexed and populated with Jews; and the coastal Gaza Strip, which was actually evacuated in 2005 and is now controlled by the Islamic militants of Hamas and blockaded by Israel and Egypt.

Over the years many and probably most Israelis have come around to the idea of a partition largely because they want to be considered a democracy and do not want all the Palestinian future citizens that would come along with the territory. For almost two decades, U.S. policy has been to advocate a two-state solution.

But over two decades of peace talks have failed to produce agreement on the details, and many on both sides consider it impossible without a major change in circumstances—massive global pressure on Israel, more upheaval in neighboring Arab countries, perhaps tectonic shifts in the prevailing world order.

Ahead of Wednesday's White House meeting between President Donald Trump and Netanyahu, a senior U.S. official suggested a two-state solution was optional, bringing condemnation from Palestinian officials. But many of them have for years been quietly preparing for an alternative strategy of a single bi-national state in the Holy Land.



In this Feb. 7, 2017 file photo, a Palestinian laborer works at a construction site in a new housing project in the Israeli settlement of Maale Adumim, near Jerusalem. AP

## AP ANALYSIS: Few alternatives to PALESTINIAN STATE

By DAN PERRY  
ASSOCIATED PRESS

In his White House news conference with Netanyahu, Trump said he was hoped for a deal but could live with two states or one state—whichever the sides prefer. Here's a look at the scenarios:

### ONE STATE

For years this was the goal of the Palestine Liberation Organization, and for many Palestinians it is indeed the preferred option: a single democratic state, not defined as specifically Jewish or Arab, in the area of British colonial Palestine. Many prefer it anyway to the two-state notion whereby even if Israel gives up all the land it captured in 1967 it retains almost 80 percent of Palestine.

The problem is that almost no one in Israel is arguing for the true extension of full rights to Palestinians in the currently occupied territories because even with Gaza excluded it would leave Arabs constituting close to half the country's population - and that is clearly the end of the Zionist dream of a Jewish state. This is why Israel never annexed the West Bank and why the more sophisticated nationalists pro-

fess to support a partition - albeit on terms the Palestinians aren't likely to accept.

If the Palestinians formally drop the two-state strategy and demand incorporation into Israel it will put Israel in the awkward position of refusing to annex territories where it has been settling Jews for decades. Or it might annex the areas but continue to deny the Palestinians there Israeli citizenship, leading to an uproar among liberal Israelis. Down this path lie coercion efforts in the form of international sanctions on Israel or Palestinian violence.

### INTERIM AGREEMENT

Many Israelis have concluded that a final peace agreement with the Palestinians is simply not possible because the Palestinians are asking for the moon as a result of a feeling that they hold the demographic cards. It is not just about territory: the Palestinians still in theory demand a "right of return" to Israel proper for millions of descendants of Palestinian refugees living around the region and the world, which the vast majority of Jewish Israelis reject.

But perhaps a partial deal is possible whereby the Palestinians would not have to forego future claims but for now get their state on, say, 80 percent of the West Bank, with some sort of preferred access or new regime in the Old City of Jerusalem? Even the current nationalist Netanyahu government would probably accept such a thing, but the Palestinians have ruled it out, fearing the temporary would become permanent. To get them to agree would require massive global and Arab world pressure, and risks huge internal conflict among the Palestinians.

### JORDANIAN OPTION

Jordan took over the West Bank and east Jerusalem during the 1948-1949 Arab-Israeli war that followed the British pullout, lost the areas to Israel in 1967 and then gave up all claims to them in favor of the Palestinians in the 1980s. But Jordan is a country with a majority Palestinian-descended population, and some Israelis still think that it can play a role in satisfying Palestinian national aspirations while resuming control over only a

part of the West Bank.

But this would probably require a collapse of Hashemite rule, founded on Jordan's Bedouin population, and as such is anathema to the Jordanian monarchy, which is beloved by many Israelis for making peace with them in 1994. Adding to the difficulties, the Palestinians reject it altogether as well.

### PARTIAL UNILATERAL PULLOUT

Under these vexing circumstances many Israelis conclude no peace is possible, but they still want to be rid of the Palestinian population of the West Bank. In the mid-2000s the government of Ehud Olmert planned a unilateral pullout from most of the territory, to follow the 2005 withdrawal from Gaza. But those plans were upended when Gaza was taken over by Hamas militants and became a launching pad for rocket attacks on Israel, leading to several mini-wars.

Few want to see that scenario repeated with the West Bank, which is much larger, very close to Israel's main cities and genuinely important

for Israel's defense. Now talk grows of a pullout of settlers from some areas, to create a more convincing reality of partition, while the military stays for now, pending some future arrangement. NATO? A global or Arab peacekeeping force? Perpetual Israeli control? No one can say.

### STATUS QUO

When the best that can be hoped for is the least bad option, the status quo looks attractive to some. But Israel is constantly changing the landscape by adding settlers—already there are some 350,000 Israelis in the West Bank and a quarter million in East Jerusalem. This arrangement, brittle and loved by few, undermines Israel's democratic credentials by leaving millions of people without a vote for the government that has ultimate control over their fate.

The Palestinians do not have a history of acquiescing for long: There were multi-year uprisings in the late 1980s and early 2000s and a spate of violence in late 2015 and early 2016. Down this path lies the very strong likelihood of more.



# Off The Wall

## Student suspended for pink hair

**GULFPORT, Miss. (AP)**—A Mississippi high school student who dyed his hair pink was suspended for violating the district's dress code policy.

Timothy Jenkins is a freshman at Gulfport High School. He tells WLOX-TV that 250 classmates have signed a petition

to change the requirement that hair be a natural-looking color.

A statement from the district says dress code policies are reviewed annually and are handled openly in a process that includes business leaders, parents, students and educators.

Jenkins says he got multiple

warnings before his suspension, with school officials saying it distracted other students.

His mother, Sheryl Jenkins, says the policy infringes on his rights and her right as a parent to decide what's best for her child.

He has since returned his hair to its natural black color.

### OFFBEAT BRIEFS

#### Pastafarian colander pic strains legality for Dutch license

**THE HAGUE, Netherlands (AP)**—A Dutch court has upheld a mayor's refusal to issue a driver's license to a man who submitted a photo of himself wearing a colander on his head. According to a court statement Wednesday, the man wanted the photo on his license as an expression of his Pastafarian faith. Pastafarians belong to the Church of the Flying Spaghetti Monster, a parody group that began in the U.S. in 2005 protesting religion encroaching into the nation's public schools. The mayor of the Dutch city of Eindhoven last year rejected the man's request, in part because he ruled that the group couldn't be considered a genuine religion. Religious headdresses are allowed on Dutch passport photos. The court agreed, saying that Pastafarian faith "did not show sufficient seriousness to be considered a religion."

#### City police commissioner gets parking ticket, and pays up

**PHILADELPHIA (AP)**—In Philadelphia, no one escapes the scrutiny of the parking authority—not even the city's police commissioner. Commissioner Richard Ross was attending a speaking engagement at a downtown hotel Tuesday morning when he was ticketed for parking in a zone that is off limits during rush hour. Police say he paid the ticket. The amount was not disclosed. Anyone who parks in the city knows the Philadelphia Parking Authority means business. It's a reputation that was reinforced when its ticket-writers and booters were featured on the A&E reality TV series "Parking Wars."

#### Player benched when ice rescue causes him to miss team bus

**CLAYTON, N.Y. (AP)**—A New York high school basketball player who helped rescue an ice fisherman from Lake Ontario was kept from suiting up for a game because the heroics caused him to miss the team bus. WWNY-TV reports

Lucas Patchen was among the volunteer firefighters in Clayton who rescued a stranded fisherman from a drifting ice slab Saturday. He missed the Thousand Islands High School team's departure for a road playoff game later that day. The school requires that any player not riding on a team bus call the coach or athletic director. The teen says he was unable to call while the rescue was underway. Thousand Islands Superintendent Michael Bashaw says the district is proud of Patchen, but that the student knew the policy. But Bashaw also says he's willing to consider changing the rule.

#### Half-ton concrete bird snatched from perch at chicken farm

**TAYLORSVILLE, N.C. (AP)**—Where do you hide a 1,000-pound chicken? That's what sheriff's deputies in Alexander County, North Carolina, are trying to figure out as they search for the concrete statue that disappeared from a farm west of Taylorsville over the weekend. While the chicken may be heavy, it's only 3 feet tall. Deputies think the statue was taken sometime between 8 p.m. Saturday and 9 a.m. Sunday from the driveway of the farm. Chief Deputy Tod Jones told the Hickory Daily Record the statue's base was found several miles away. Jones said the statue is valued at about \$1,100. Alexander County is near Hickory, about 60 miles north of Charlotte.

#### Cat goes on marathon jaunt from Netherlands to Austria

**VIENNA (AP)**—Six months after her cat ran away, a woman in the Netherlands is looking forward to a reunion—in an Austrian village 950 kilometers (nearly 600 miles) away. Austrian state broadcaster ORF reports that Pepper recently turned up in Aschbach-Markt, west of Vienna. She looked to be just another stray to the person who brought her to a local veterinarian. But an examination revealed that the well-traveled feline was microchipped, allowing veterinarian Katharina Zöchling to trace the owner

and through photos, establish that the cat was indeed hers. ORF said Tuesday that the unnamed owner is planning a trip to the Austrian village to claim Pepper. And while how the cat got there may never be known, one guess is she hitchhiked - on the back of a truck.

#### Ohio college student wins title as best grocery bagger

**MEDINA, Ohio (AP)**—A 23-year-old University of Akron accounting student has been named the nation's top grocery bagger after claiming the Ohio title two years in a row. The Medina (meh-DY'-nuh) Gazette reports Brady Long returns to Wadsworth with a \$10,000 prize after winning the National Grocers Association's Best Bagger championship. Long packs up groceries at Buehler's Fresh Foods. He competed against nearly two dozen others during the bagging championship in Las Vegas, where they were judged on speed, technique and other factors, including style and attitude. He says he'll use the prize money to help him replace his current vehicle, a 1996 van.

#### Man caught driving 22 times without license loses appeal

**ERIE, Pa. (AP)**—A state court panel says a Pennsylvania man caught driving without a license 22 times got the punishment he deserved. Randy Stallsmith had claimed that his 3-to 6-month prison term was excessive for driving offense No. 22 in 2015. He pleaded guilty to driving without a license. Pennlive.com reports a state Superior Court panel upheld the sentence, saying the 49-year-old Erie County man's past behavior sank his appeal. Stallsmith appealed to the Superior Court because a county judge wouldn't allow him to serve his time on work release. Stallsmith argued he should've received a lighter sentence because he took responsibility for his actions. The panel agreed with the county judge, saying with 22 offenses already on his record, Stallsmith "provided no indication that his aberrant conduct would cease."

# Science & Technology

## Yahoo issues another warning in fallout from hacking attacks

**LONDON (AP)**—Yahoo is warning users of potentially malicious activity on their accounts between 2015 and 2016, the latest development in the internet company's investigation of a mega-breach that exposed 1 billion users' data several years ago.

Yahoo confirmed Wednesday that it was notifying users that their accounts had potentially been compromised but declined to say how many people were affected.

In a statement, Yahoo tied some of the potential compromises to what it has described as the "state-sponsored actor" responsible for the theft of private data from more than 1 billion user accounts in 2013 and 2014. The stolen data included email addresses, birth dates and answers to security questions.

The catastrophic breach raised questions about Yahoo's security and destabilized the company's deal to sell its email service, websites and mobile applications to Verizon Communications.



This Jan. 14, 2015 file photo shows Yahoo's headquarters in Sunnyvale, Calif.

The malicious activity that was the subject of the user warnings revolved around the use of "forged cookies" - strings of data which are used across the web and can sometimes allow people to access online accounts without re-entering their passwords.

A warning message sent to Yahoo users Wednesday read: "Based on the ongoing investigation, we believe a forged cookie may have been used in 2015 or 2016 to access your account." Some users posted the ones they received to Twitter.

"Within six people in our

lab group, at least one other person has gotten this email," Joshua Plotkin, a biology professor at the University of Pennsylvania, said. "That's just anecdotal of course, but for two people in a group of six to have gotten it, I imagine it's a considerable amount."

Plotkin said in a telephone interview that he wasn't concerned because he used his Yahoo email for messages that were "close to spam." In the message he posted to Twitter, he joked that "hopefully the cookie was forged by a state known for such delicacies."

## TECH Q&A: How a PC virus scam really happens

By **STEVE ALEXANDER**  
STAR TRIBUNE (MINNEAPOLIS)

**Q: After reading your column about updating Windows 7 (see [tinyurl.com/zhdlyf](http://tinyurl.com/zhdlyf)), I typed your tinyurl address into my browser and got strange results. A repeating audio warning said I had a virus and spyware infection, and that I should call the number on the screen (855-257-9669) before the PC became disabled. I restarted the PC and got the same warning. I then ran Microsoft's Malicious Software Removal Tool (find it at [tinyurl.com/z85al7o](http://tinyurl.com/z85al7o)), which found nothing amiss. Finally, I called the number on the screen and played along while a man urged me to give him remote access to my PC, then hung up. Was this situation caused by your tinyurl?—Chuck Wilkinson, Eau Claire, Wis.**

**A:** No. While I'm glad you realized that the man on the phone was running a scam, this wasn't a chain reaction caused by you typing my tinyurl into your browser. It was caused by a malicious program on your PC that is still active and needs to be removed.

Known generically as the

"855-257-9669 pop-up," the malware produces the fake virus warning and the telephone "help" number that charges to "fix" your PC. It can also secretly download browser extensions, which change browser behavior, and other unwanted programs.

To uninstall the pop-up and remove traces of it from your browser, see [tinyurl.com/gnm8w6c](http://tinyurl.com/gnm8w6c). But completely clearing it from your PC requires additional fixes. While the same website tells you how to do this manually, it requires the risky alteration of the PC's registry (a database of settings), which I don't recommend because of the potential for creating errors. Instead, run the free version of the Malwarebytes security program (see [tinyurl.com/jsdacdk](http://tinyurl.com/jsdacdk)). I'm not criticizing the Microsoft security software; it's just that no one program catches all malware.

**Q: My printer, a Lexmark model Z2420, has stopped printing documents sent from my Windows 10 laptop. I've owned the printer for two or three years and bought the Windows 10 PC six months ago, and initially they worked together. What's wrong?—Ray Hughes, Elida, Ohio**

**A:** You have software compatibility problems. Lexmark has discontinued its model Z2420 printer, and as a result doesn't provide Windows 10 software drivers for it. Lexmark suggests that you try its Windows 8 software drivers (see [tinyurl.com/hzago2x](http://tinyurl.com/hzago2x)), which might work. But future Windows 10 updates could render the Windows 8 drivers useless.

**Q: My girlfriend traded her iPhone 5c for an iPhone 6s Plus. Because she couldn't remember her Apple ID and password, the Verizon Wireless technician couldn't transfer the old phone's music to the new phone. Now she has a new Apple ID. How can she do the song transfer?—Mark Hemmann, Colorado Springs, Colo.**

**A:** Because she lacks the original Apple ID data, the easiest way is to bypass Apple's software entirely and try the non-Apple programs AnyTrans (\$40; seven-day, limited-use free trial) for PC ([tinyurl.com/h6qqaqs](http://tinyurl.com/h6qqaqs)) or Mac ([tinyurl.com/zrl4upq](http://tinyurl.com/zrl4upq)). Connect both phones to the computer via cable and click "clone device" to transfer songs from the old phone to the new one.



# Life & Style

## Casting Oscar: Foundry creates each statuette as work of art



### BEST IN SHOW

Rumor, a German shepherd, poses for photos after winning Best in Show at the 141st Westminster Kennel Club Dog Show, early Wednesday, Feb. 15, 2017, in New York. Rumor was crowned America's top dog Tuesday night when, a year after a near miss on the very same green carpet, she came out of retirement to win best in show at the Westminster Kennel Club. Cheered loudly all around the ring by a packed crowd at Madison Square Garden, she's just the second German shepherd champion at the event that began in 1877. The 5-year-old Rumor beat out a Norwegian elkhound, a Pekingese, a miniature poodle, an Irish setter, a boxer and a Norwich terrier in the final ring. The Irish setter called Adrian finished second.

AP

**ROCK TAVERN, N.Y.** (AP)—Every Oscar fist-pumped or tearfully cradled by Academy Award winners is first cast, buffed and fussed over at a foundry far from Hollywood.

Workers at the Polich Tallix fine art foundry, about 50 miles north of New York City, began work in late September on the awards to be handed out Feb. 26. Each of the 60 Oscars shipped from the hangar-like production floor is 13½ inches tall with the same distinctive Art Deco features polished to a mirror finish. Each glossy black base lacks only a winner's nameplate, which is added after the ceremony.

Polich Tallix, which began making the awards last year, tweaked the look of the stylized knight with an eye toward the original statuettes handed out in 1929. The path of these new statues from a small town in upstate New York to center stage in Hollywood might not

be the stuff of movies.

But it's worth a close-up.

### CASTING CALL

Every Oscar starts with a version made of wax, which is repeatedly dipped into a cream-colored ceramic slurry. The ceramic hardens and the wax is melted out to make way for molten bronze. What's left once the ceramic mold is chipped away is a sort of rough-hewn version of the elegant icon.

John Menzie and other workers make sure every surface detail—from Oscar's hairline to the film reel it stands on—is hand-sanded and polished to a fine finish.

Menzie said it's a kick to see the pieces you worked on for hours handed out on TV, like he did last year while watching the Academy Awards.

"When Leonardo DiCaprio gave his speech and he was holding his Oscar I was just thinking ... I might have worked on that one," Menzie said. "I wish in his acceptance speech, he would have said the serial number that was on the back, you know? So I could say, 'That's the one I worked on!'"

### BEST VISUAL EFFECTS

When Polich Tallix took over production from a Chicago company, the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences asked the foundry to create a statue truer to the original. Foundry artist Daniel Plonski made 3-D scans of an early statue and a recent statue, and took desired qualities from

each for the newest iteration. Oscar's restoration was subtle; his stylized facial features are more defined, there's a greater hint of his ears and a hair part, and his sword rests in sharper relief between his legs.

"The trick was not to make it too shockingly different," Plonski said.

The most substantial difference is one people don't see. The statue is once again cast in bronze, instead of a pewter-like alloy.

### AND THE AWARD GOES TO ...

The statues are shipped to Brooklyn for 24-karat-gold electroplating at Epner Technology, which also is in its second year of Oscar making.

President David Epner said that before his company became involved in Oscar production, actor F. Murray Abraham and a couple of other award winners had asked him to plate gold finishes that were wearing off. He vows that won't happen under his process, which includes copper plating and nickel plating each statue before gold plating.

"The gold is guaranteed—not for the life of the recipient, but for the life of the statue," Epner said.

Polich Tallix has one more task after the nominees are announced: making a nameplate for each potential winner. The award winners are handed an Oscar on stage with no nameplate on it. Winners can later take their statue to a table backstage to get their nameplate affixed.

## Grammy producer apologizes for Metallica, Caesar glitches

**LOS ANGELES** (AP)—The longtime producer of the Grammy Awards is offering apologies to Metallica and Shirley Caesar after a technical glitch and a misprint marred their inclusion on the show.

The mic for Metallica's James Hetfield wasn't initially working when the band took the stage to perform with Lady Gaga, and Caesar, a lifetime achievement award honoree, was misidentified during the televised ceremony when a photo of another gospel star, CeCe Winans, was shown instead of her during a montage clip.

"These kinds of things are horrible when they happen," Ken Ehrlich said in an interview with The Associated Press on Wednesday. "That's one of the risks of live television."

The Metallica glitch, for which the band has blamed a dead microphone, resulted in Hetfield making a decision to improvise and use Lady Gaga's mic.

Ehrlich has heard a different story from his crew about the problem.

"My guys say that the mic cable was connected," he said. "My guys' theory was that ... one of the extras (on stage) accidentally kicked out the cable that went to the mic."

Still, the end result was Hetfield's singing couldn't be heard for the first part of the performance.

"Obviously, we apologize to the band," Ehrlich said, calling the mishap "awful."

He added that he's worked with Metallica for years, so to see that happen was personally upsetting to him: "You hurt."

## Q&A: 'La La Land' composer on his moment in the spotlight

**LOS ANGELES** (AP)—For "La La Land" composer and songwriter Justin Hurwitz, it's been a long, laborious ride from dreaming up the musical with his old college roommate Damien Chazelle over six years ago to becoming the toast of awards season. His catchy score and songs have broken through, too, securing their own place in the spotlight and overshadowing the likes of Justin Timberlake and Lin Manuel-Miranda in the awards races.

In the past two months, Hurwitz has picked up a handful of critics' awards, a BAFTA and two Golden Globe Awards for score and original song ("City of Stars") and is nominated for three Oscars—score and two songs ("The Fools Who Dream" and "City of Stars"). He knows how unique this moment is, especially for a composer.

Hurwitz recently spoke to The Associated Press about his "La La Land" score, the unusual production process and how he was an inspiration for Ryan Gosling's character, Sebastian.

**AP: This wasn't a typical director/composer relationship during production. Can you describe how?**

**Hurwitz:** Normally, the composer doesn't come in until later in the process when the picture is locked. We didn't feel like temp music (temporary music, sometimes from another film) could work in

this movie since the language of the music was so important in making it all flow together, so I had an office next to the editing room where Damien and (editor) Tom Cross were working for eight months. Every day they would give me scenes and I would give them the score and they would tweak the scenes to fit the score and I would tweak the score to fit the scenes. The picture and the score were evolving together. It was kind of an unusual process.

Then there were some really weird situations where I was playing the piano while they were shooting—like the scene where Mia (Emma Stone) is at the restaurant with her boyfriend and his brother. I was on set playing the theme because we wanted her to react to it, but we also wanted the music to react to her. I was watching her in the monitor and playing it and scoring it while they were shooting it.

**AP: What was the theory behind Emma Stone's naturalistic singing style?**

**Hurwitz:** What we were going for would be like Audrey Hepburn in "Moon River." Emma has a similarly breathy voice. It's a lovely voice but it doesn't have too much of that Broadway belt to it. She can, and she does in "Audition," but when she's singing there's lightness and airiness to it that

I think is really charming. That kind of voice makes someone feel like a real person a little more. We wanted to still have some reality and vulnerability and humanity in all of it.



Hurwitz

**AP: You've been working on this for over six years.**

**Do you see yourself in the movie at all?**

**Hurwitz:** Damien was modeling the Sebastian (Ryan Gosling) character somewhat on me. During pre-production, he sent the costume designer and the production designer to my apartment to take pictures and take a look at everything. I was using my piano as a table. I would eat on it and put all my mail on it and pretty much everything was on my piano. Ryan (Gosling) got wind of what they were planning and he said, "I think that's just too sad. I think that's too pathetic." So they made his apartment not quite as austere.

**AP: What was your apartment like?**

**Hurwitz:** It was just a white room with a piano and a bed. An "Umbrellas of Cherbourg" poster on the wall was my only decoration. That's where I first met (producers) Fred (Berger) and Jordan (Horowitz). Six years ago Damien brought them over to my apartment to hear some of the music and they were pretty

weirded out when they walked in. They didn't know what to think. They described it various ways, one of which was, "an insane asylum with a piano in it." I've acquired more furniture now. Not much. I have a dining room table but no chairs.

**AP: How has this whole awards run been for you?**

**Hurwitz:** It's been really fun and flattering. It's been tiring at times—getting dressed up as much as I've had to get dressed up. These are not things that I do normally. I'm enjoying it, but I'm also aware that this won't happen again for me, at least in this way, on this level. Composers don't often get opportunities like this. This was such an incredible opportunity, not just to compose so much music for a movie, but to put so much of myself in the movie. Because of the relationship I have with Damien, I got to put my musical voice in such a pure way into his movie. That's a rare opportunity. So yeah, I'll do film scores going forward and maybe I'll do more musicals, but I don't know the next time that I'll get to be so involved in a movie creatively.

**AP: That's very wistful!**

**Hurwitz:** Basically my life is downhill from here. This is down.

**AP: What's next?**

**Hurwitz:** I'm writing and producing "Curb Your Enthusiasm." It has nothing to do with music.



# Kate Upton three-peats as SI's swimsuit queen

**NEW YORK (AP)**—Kate Upton is so nice she's made the Sports Illustrated swimsuit cover thrice.

Upton has become only the fourth woman to grace the cover three times. This year, she's making the splash with three different covers.

Other women who did the cover three times include Tyra Banks, Heidi Klum and

Christie Brinkley, who also is featured in this year's edition with her two daughters. Elle Macpherson holds the record with five cover appearances.

Other notables in this year's edition include former cover girl Chrissy Teigen, an expectant mother and athlete including tennis champ Serena Williams and Olympic gold

medal gymnast Simone Biles. The issue hit newsstands on Wednesday.

**AP**  
In this Friday, Feb. 10, 2017 file photo, Kate Upton arrives at the MusiCares Person of the Year tribute honoring Tom Petty at the Los Angeles Convention Center. She's once, twice, three times a Sports Illustrated swimsuit cover lady.



## SHOWBIZ TIDBITS

### Lindsay Lohan: Support Trump, would be 'a positive thing'

**NEW YORK (AP)**—Lindsay Lohan says Americans need to come together in support of President Donald Trump. When asked about Trump, the actress told the Daily Mail in a video interview last week, "You have to join him. If you can't beat him, join him." She said she thinks "it would be a positive thing for America to show their care and support." Lohan is offering her support for Trump despite his comments in 2004 to Howard Stern, in which Trump said of Lohan: "She's probably deeply troubled and therefore great in bed." In the newspaper interview, the 30-year-old Lohan also touched on her interest in Islam. She said she's been studying the religion and called it "beautiful." Of the possibility of becoming a Muslim herself, she said that "anything's possible."

### Queen Latifah to be honored as an entertainment icon

**LOS ANGELES (AP)**—Queen Latifah will get the royal treatment at the upcoming American Black Film Festival Honors. The Oscar-nominated actress is set to receive the Entertainment Icon award at this year's ceremony, to be held in Los Angeles on Friday. The star of "Star" on Fox says she is honored to receive the award. "It means so much to me coming from fellow entertainers and my peers." Queen Latifah got her start as a rapper almost three decades ago. Besides her Oscar

nod for "Chicago," she's also been nominated twice in Emmy acting categories and won a Golden Globe. The American Black Film Festival Honors will air on BET and Centric at 8 p.m. EST on Feb. 22. Other honorees include Terrence Howard. Actress Regina Hall will host the event.

### Carlos Santana says praise for Adele wasn't dig at Beyonce

Carlos Santana says he was only trying to congratulate Adele on her big night at the Grammys when he said Beyonce "is very beautiful to look at" but "not a singer, singer." Santana told the Australian Associated Press that Adele can "sing, sing." He said Adele "doesn't bring all the dancers and props, she can just stand there and she just stood there and sang the song and that's it, and this is why she wins." Santana clarified his stance on Facebook Tuesday, writing that his "intent was to congratulate Adele" and that his comment about Beyonce "was regretfully taken out of context." He adds that he has "the utmost respect" for Beyonce. Adele beat out Beyonce for the top awards during Sunday's ceremony. **(AP)**

### Katy Perry, Ed Sheeran to play iHeartRadio Music Awards

**NEW YORK (AP)**—Katy Perry, Ed Sheeran and The Chainsmokers will perform at the iHeartRadio Music Awards in Los Angeles. Additional performers announced Wednesday include Shawn Mendes, Thomas Rhett,

Noah Cyrus and Big Sean. Bruno Mars has also been previously announced as a performer. Drake leads all nominees with 12 nominations, including male artist of the year, at the fourth annual awards show. The show will air live on TBS, TNT and truTV on Sunday, March 5.

### Greece says no to Gucci fashion show at Acropolis

**ATHENS, Greece (AP)**—Greece's culture ministry has rejected a request by Italian luxury brand Gucci to use the ancient Acropolis for a fashion event this summer. Culture Minister Lydia Koniordou told state television a panel of ministry experts turned down the request late Tuesday, adding she was in "total agreement." The Acropolis is listed as a World Heritage Site by the United Nations cultural organization, Unesco. Koniordou said: "We have a duty to defend the importance of (the Acropolis) ... a global symbol of democracy and freedom." Requests for commercial use of ancient monuments in Greece are rarely approved. American singer Jennifer Lopez was granted access to the Acropolis for a 2008 photo shoot. The site also featured in the 2014 film "The Two Faces of January" starring Viggo Mortensen and Kirsten Dunst.

### In new report, man claims Justin Bieber punched him in June

**CLEVELAND (AP)**—A Las Vegas man who says Justin Bieber assaulted him in Cleveland eight months ago has filed a police report

about the fracas. Thirty-four-year-old Rodney Cannon claims in the report filed Tuesday with Cleveland police that the pop star took Cannon's sunglasses inside a hotel after a Cleveland Cavaliers playoff game on June 8. He says in the report that Bieber and possibly a bodyguard punched him, and that he wrestled Bieber to the ground to restrain him. Bieber's publicist didn't immediately return a message seeking comment on the accusations. Cannon referred questions Wednesday about the encounter—and why he waited to file the report—to an attorney who also didn't immediately return a message. A Cleveland police spokesman says the episode is under investigation.

### Spotify to relocate US headquarters to 4 World Trade Center

**NEW YORK (AP)**—Spotify is relocating and expanding its U.S. headquarters to 4 World Trade Center. Gov. Andrew Cuomo announced the move Wednesday, saying the streaming music service will create 1,000 new jobs. The company will occupy 378,000 square feet in the new Fumihiko Maki-designed building owned by Silverstein Properties. The governor says the relocation will make it the first office tower at the historic 16-acre World Trade Center site to be fully leased. The company also will be getting up to \$11 million in rent-reduction credits. Spotify currently has offices in midtown Manhattan. The move is expected to be completed by 2018.

## Grandpa foils kid's vegetarian diet with fast food chicken

**DEAR ABBY:** I have been a vegetarian for 12 years. My husband has been one on and off for five years. I thought our children, 7 and 3, had never had meat in their lives.

I recently found out that my father-in-law has been feeding them chicken nuggets from fast food. I was, and still am, very upset about it. It has been six months and I haven't talked to him since and no longer let my kids go over there without my husband. He texted me an apology that seemed very sarcastic and made me even angrier.

Everyone says I need to get over it, but no one has confronted him about it. This has put a strain on my relationship with my husband. Can you please advise me on what to do next?

FURIOUS IN THE SOUTH

**DEAR FURIOUS:** Text messages are, by definition, terse. Accept the apology you were given and move forward.

That said, however, continue to insist that your children be under their father's supervision when they visit their grandfather because his judgment is questionable, and he has already shown that when they are with him, your wishes will not be enforced.

**DEAR ABBY:** I have had a few negative encounters with dog owners who invited me to their home and became up-

set because I pushed their pet away when it tried to jump/lick/nudge me (although I do it gently). While I understand I am entering the dog's territory, I think it's inconsiderate when pet owners not only refuse to restrain their pets, but also imply that I'm somehow a lesser human being because I don't want my personal space infringed upon by an aggressive animal.

I would never allow my children to behave similarly around guests. If I knew people were uncomfortable with my children climbing on them, as a polite host, I would ask my children to leave that person alone. To me it seems this is a mutual respect issue. Am I wrong?

DOG ENCOUNTERS

**DEAR DOG ENCOUNTERS:** No, you're not wrong. People have had scratches on their legs and items of clothing ruined because a dog jumped on them. The problem is that some dog owners identify so strongly with their pet that they lose the ability to distinguish between it and themselves—and take anything they perceive as a rejection personally.

While a guest may be technically on a dog's turf, that doesn't mean the guest should be fair game. Considerate hosts control their dog until it has calmed down enough to be properly introduced.

## DEAR ABBY

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN  
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

*Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at [www.DearAbby.com](http://www.DearAbby.com) or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.*



**DEAR ABBY:** I have a 19-year-old granddaughter who has three tattoos and now a ring in her nose. Any suggestions as to what I might say to her to stop the destruction?

GRANDDAD IN NEW ORLEANS

**DEAR GRANDDAD:** Whether your granddaughter is "destroying" herself is a matter of opinion. Obviously, she doesn't think so. That's why I'm advising you to say nothing beyond "I love you" to her because she is now an adult and responsible for the choices she makes.

*What teens need to know about sex, drugs, AIDS and getting along with peers and parents is in "What Every Teen Should Know." Send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for \$7 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Teen Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)*



# Pastimes

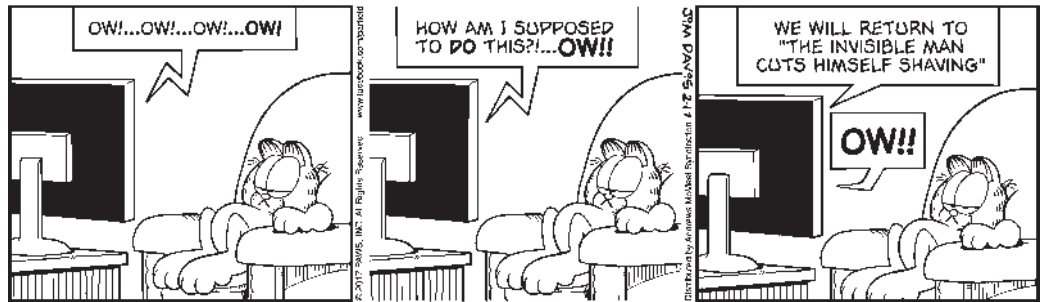
## Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson



## Garfield®

By Jim Davis



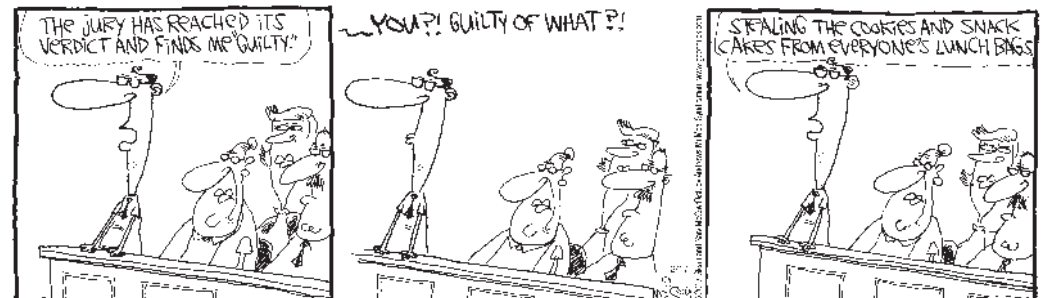
## Adam@home

By Bryan Basset



## The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy



## CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

**ACROSS**

1 Commu-  
nity spirit

6 Lobbying  
org.

9 Resis-  
tance unit

12 Handed  
out hands

13 Kimono  
closer

14 Kanga's  
kid

15 Marsh  
plant

16 "Chilean"  
fish

18 Maiden

20 Num-  
bered  
rds.

21 Street  
address?

23 Trio after  
R

24 Run-  
down

25 "That  
hurts!"

27 Bert's  
roomie

29 Turkey's  
capital

31 Sagit-  
tarius  
symbol

35 Honey-  
comb  
compart-  
ments

**DOWN**

1 Mag. staff  
snake

2 Golf peg

3 Smoked  
fish

4 Gymnast  
Korbut

5 Rose  
parts

6 One who  
puts on  
airs

7 Genesis  
shepherd

8 Spy org.

9 Emulate  
Lincoln

10 Cheated,  
slangily

11 Unlike  
a rolling  
stone?

17 Rifle  
part

19 Rob

21 Large

22 Ske-  
daddle

24 Knight's  
address

26 Website  
invader

28 Twangy

30 Scale  
mem-  
bers

32 Flatfish

33 Before

34 Pres.  
after LBJ

36 Feudal  
lords

38 "Hog-  
wash!"

39 Supreme  
Court

40 Justice  
Kagan

42 Fleet-  
related

45 Wilde-  
beests

46 Scrabble  
piece

48 Hosp.  
area

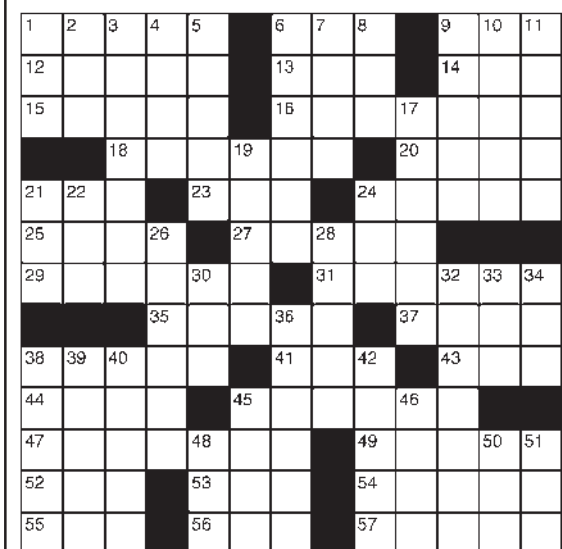
50 Ambu-  
lance  
VIP

51 Snake's  
warning

**Solution time: 25 mins.**

YESTERDAY'S ANSWER 2-17

SLAB SOW STEM  
TORA ERA LEDA  
AGAI XFX EXIT  
HOBBIT SUITES  
TAD A NINEHOLE  
IRE TIE OER  
SIXTYSIX SKIS  
TOE THE  
THRUSH DESIGN  
HOOP AGO ARLO  
APSF IDO MOAN  
ISEE FOR ENDO



## STUMPED?

For answers to today's crossword, call 1-800-226-5955! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

**CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY:** Ed Sheeran, 26; Joseph Gordon-Levitt, 36; Billie Joe Armstrong, 45; Denise Richards, 46.

**Happy Birthday:** Stay grounded. If you let your emotions take over, you will tend to overreact and make poor choices. Look at each situation you face as the year unfolds and you will find the best solutions. Time is on your side and taking positive and progressive steps toward a better future will bring you closer to the life you desire. Your numbers are 1, 9, 15, 29, 36, 40, 48.

**ARIES (March 21-April 19):** Emotional issues will surface if you are dealing with outside influences or people who don't see things the same way you do. Work independently to avoid interference. Stability will result from knowing what you are doing. \*\*\*

**TAURUS (April 20-May 20):** A creative approach to life, learning and self-awareness will help you make adjustments to the way you do business. You don't have to agree with everything others say, do or offer. Just strive for personal perfection. \*\*\*

**GEMINI (May 21-June 20):** Be generous with others, and forge ahead with optimism. Set your sights high and pry open doors that can help you launch into something new and exciting. Intelligence and charm will lead to victory. \*\*\*

**CANCER (June 21-July 22):** Education and searching for information that can help you revitalize your life, goals and current position are favored. Refuse to let what

others are doing throw you off guard or push you in a costly direction. \*\*\*\*\*

**LEO (July 23-Aug. 22):** Partnership problems will surface if you let your emotions interfere with what needs to be done. Travel if necessary. A face-to-face conversation will allow you to send a positive message. Personal improvements are favored. \*\*

**VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22):** When it comes to business and dealing with clients, peers or superiors, don't let your emotions take over. It's best to be frank but also willing to compromise if necessary. Don't burn bridges. Tact and diplomacy are favored. \*\*\*\*

**LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22):** Partnerships and getting together with people who make you think will help you come to terms with what you want to do next. Revisit a creative dream or plan you want to pursue. Don't let laziness take over. Get started. \*\*\*

**SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21):** Listen carefully, but don't get trapped in someone's ploy to coerce you into a heated debate. It's OK to live life your way if you let others have the same privilege. Do your own thing and expand your skills, talents and prospects. \*\*\*

**SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21):** It's your hard work that will help you reach your goals. Don't let anyone deter you from finishing what you start or tempt you to get involved in something that isn't on your agenda. Avoid indulgent people. \*\*\*

## EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD  
IN ASTROLOGYCOPYRIGHT 2007  
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**CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19):** You'll have to stand up to anyone who tries to take advantage of you. Don't get involved with people who just want to take advantage of your skills, knowledge and experience. Move forward alone. \*\*\*\*\*

**AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18):** Don't second-guess what you should be doing. Follow your heart and do what feels right. Added discipline will help you overcome any emotional or physical challenges you face. Choose love and peace over disharmony and discord. \*\*

**PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20):** A joint venture or new investment will give you a sense of accomplishment. Financial gains using innovative ideas will pay off. Don't be afraid to adopt change if it's a result of someone or something unusual. \*\*\*\*\*

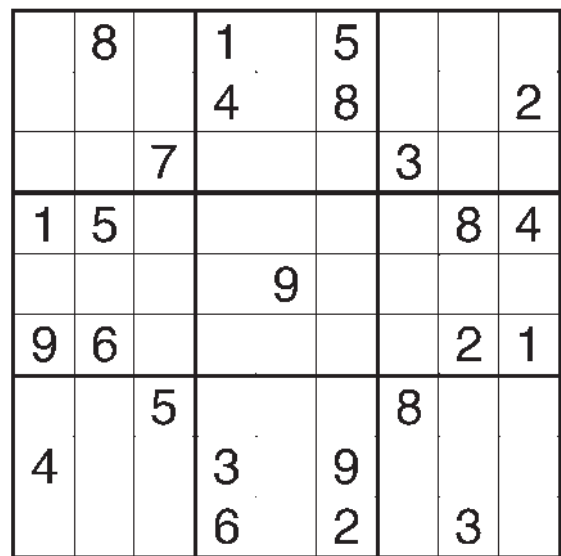
**Birthday Baby:** You are brave, intense and determined. You are sociable and open-minded.

Eugenia's website—[eugenialast.com](http://eugenialast.com), Eugenia's android app @ <http://bit.ly/exhoro> and join Eugenia on twitter/facebook/linkedin.

## SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku

By Dave Green



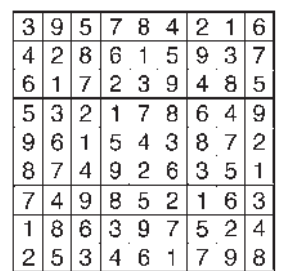
Difficulty Level ★★★★★

2:17

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Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's SUDOKU Answer



Solving Time: \*\*\*

2:17

## WONDERWORD®

By DAVID  
OUELLET

**HOW TO PLAY:** All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally and even backward. Find them, circle each letter of the word and strike it off the list. The leftover letters spell the WONDERWORD.

ROBERT VAUGHN (1932-2016)

Solution: 12 letters

Y E G A M I R G L I P L A Y S  
P U D E W N U N M T E G R A T  
P T O I A N Z R A W O R R U M  
A A C N S S A R B N E U C S M  
H T N M O T H E R I N I P A F  
C S O G N A G E T T T Y R R N  
A K R A D A T N O C E C E T A M  
E R B O T L O U E I E D A A M  
R M C S A R C N M L N U Z T E  
T D A W F H N A L E A D N O L  
N L I N A O R A S I C N A R F  
E A T B C A S S I D Y C N T I  
I E I L E B A A T S L E B E R  
S G N T H R I L L E R O T C A


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Actor, Bonanza, Brass, Bronco, Cartlin, Cassidy, Connecticut, Dark, Eleventh Hour, Francis, Frontier, Gang, Gerald, Gunsmoke, Happy, Laramie, Lead, Marcella, Mother, Murrow, Nanny, Pilgrimage, Plays, Rebels, Rifleman, Sender, Side, Silent Reach, Spy, Staab, Stage, Statue, Target, Tatort, Thriller, Untouchables, Unwed, Walter, Warz  
**Yesterday's Answer: Leadership**

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CLASSIFIED ADS

EMPLOYMENT

3 Accountant/ Bookkeeper, minimum salary. Mail resume to Burger & Comer PC at P.O. Box 504053, Saipan, MP 96950

1 Welder, 3 mason, 1 carpenter, 1 electrician, 1 plumber & 2 Gen. maintenance & repair worker, minimum salary. Please mail resume to Blue Lagoon Realty Inc. P.O. Box 505478, Saipan MP 96950 or call 670-288-6903/04 look for Robert.

2 Accountant/ Bookkeeper, 8 Houseworker, 6 Landscaper, 2 waiter/waitress, 2 Heavy equipment operator, minimum salary. Mail resume to MTO Maintenance (Saipan), Inc. at P.O. Box 504053, Saipan MP 96950.

LOOKING FOR HOUSE

Looking to buy or long term lease house/apartment. Will pay lump-sum. Look for Zheng at 287-7676.

CLICK IT OR TICKET DAY & NIGHT

WANTED

ENVIRONMENTAL PROFESSIONAL

Area of expertise to include one or more of the following - biology, geology, natural sciences, environmental engineer. BSc or higher. Seeking experienced, motivated professionals with project management experience. Salary commensurate with experience.

Email: opp17@yahoo.com

WHATZIT Solution: Okay by me

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Saipan Tribune also offers a Super Saver Package—a complete 5-day run in both print and online editions, for as low as \$30 for garage sales, apartment rentals, help wanted, auto and more. You can choose from any of the packages below.

SAIPAN COUNTRY CLUB  
JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT  
(01) BOOKKEEPER (Full-time)

Summary  
Update and maintain accounts payable and receivable, calculate profit and loss statements, prepare bank deposits, verify and balance receipts, handle payroll, prepare invoices and keep track of overdue accounts, monitor loans and payments, total, balance and reconcile billing vouchers and enter code transactions according to company accounting procedures.

Job Duties:

- Update and maintain accounts payable and receivable.
- Calculate profit and loss statements.
- Prepare bank deposits, verify and balance receipts.
- Process payroll.
- Prepare invoices and keep track of overdue accounts.
- Monitor loans and payments. Total, balance and reconcile billing vouchers and enter code transactions according to company accounting procedures.

Qualification Requirements:

- Bachelor degree in Accounting preferred. 3 years of experience preferred.
- Knowledge of QuickBooks required.
- Knowledge in Excel, MC Word, Power Point programs.
- Must have a minimum of three (3) years work experience in accounting.
- Must have thorough knowledge of QuickBooks Accounting System.
- Must work with minimal or no supervision.
- Must have own transportation to and from the workplace.

Scope

- Applicants will be primarily based in our Saipan head office
- Salary Range

Interested applicants must submit resume to our Bridge Capital office on Micro Beach Rd, Garapan, or email to tania.mesa@bccnmi.com. Deadline to submit application will be Tuesday, February 28, 2017 at 4:00 pm. No phone calls please.

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT  
MARIANAS MANAGEMENT CORPORATION  
ONE (1) FULL TIME CHIEF ACCOUNTANT  
(Property Management and Capital Accounts)

DUTIES & RESPONSIBILITIES:  
Manages all company accounting functions; maintains control over expenses, income, assets and liabilities of the company; Review and analyze financial statements to ensure adherence to the U.S. Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP); Prepares financial highlights and account schedules for top management; Make recommendations to General Manager and Board of Directors based on project cost forecast/budgets and other financial information; Assists external auditors to year-end data for consolidation of Audited Financial Statements; Review and approve journal entries prepared by accounting staff; Develop and maintain internal control and effective accounting system and policies; Supervises the compilation of accounting data and preparation of financial statements; Supervises the preparation of monthly, quarterly and annual account reconciliation in accordance with management expectations and current accounting standards; Ensure compliance with taxes and licenses; Coordinates complex accounting projects and initiatives with other accounting or office staff with a high level of independence and professional discretion while maintaining accountability of all company assets; Train and supervise junior staff accountants; Prepares response to Solicitation for Offer (for prospective federal contracts) and Request for Proposal/Invitation to Bid (for local contracts); Perform other related duties as assigned or requested by Board of Directors or the General Manager.

QUALIFICATIONS:  
Bachelor Degree in Accounting or its equivalent;  
5 years accounting/finance experience;  
CPA preferred but not required.

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# Westbrook scores 38 in triple-double as Thunder top Knicks



**OKLAHOMA CITY** (AP)—Russell Westbrook scored 38 points and had his 27th triple-double of the season to help the Oklahoma City Thunder beat the New York Knicks 116-105 on Wednesday night.

Westbrook moved into sole possession of third place for the most triple-doubles in a season, behind Oscar Robertson's 41 in 1961-62 and Wilt Chamberlain's 31 in 1967-68. The star guard had 14 rebounds and 12 assists in the 64th triple-double of his career.

Victor Oladipo added 21 points for the Thunder. Carmelo Anthony had 30 points for the Knicks, and Derrick Rose added 25.

## Celtics 116, 76ers 108

In Boston, Isaiah Thomas scored 13 of his 33 points in the fourth quarter and the surging Boston Celtics held on to beat the Philadelphia 76ers 116-108 on Wednesday night.

It was the 40th straight 20-point game for Thomas, tying the team record set by John Havlicek during the 1971-72 season. Marcus Smart added 21 points and eight steals for the Celtics.

Boston has won four in a row and 11 of 12. Philadelphia had won three straight.

Dario Saric led the 76ers with 20 points and 11 rebounds. Robert Covington added 18 points.

## Cavaliers 113, Pacers 104

In Cleveland, LeBron James scored 31 points, Kyrie Irving added 26, Kyle Korver made six 3-pointers and Cleveland



beat Indiana to roll into the All-Star break with its seventh win in eight games.

Irving and Korver combined to make four 3s in the first 2:50 of the fourth quarter — Korver finished with 22 points and became the seventh player with 2,000 career 3s — as the NBA champions improved to 7-1 in February following a drama-and-distraction filled January.

Glenn Robinson III scored 17 points for Indiana. The Pacers have lost five straight.

## Warriors 109, Kings 86

In Oakland, California, Klay Thompson scored 10 of his 35 points during a big third-quarter run and the Golden State Warriors beat the Sacramento Kings.

Stephen Curry added 13 points and nine assists, and Kevin Durant had 21 points, seven rebounds and seven assists as the Warriors bounced back from a loss in Denver two nights earlier to head into the All-Star break an NBA-best 47-9.

DeMarcus Cousins had 13 points and six assists for Sacramento. Matt Barnes added 15 points and Darren Collison scored 14.

## Heat 117, Rockets 109

In Houston, Hassan Whiteside had 23 points, 14 rebounds and five blocks to help Miami beat Houston.

Dion Waiters added 23 points, nine rebounds and seven assists, and Goran Dragic had 21 points for the Heat. They had lost two straight af-

ter winning 12 in a row.

James Harden had 38 points 12 rebounds and 12 assists for Houston his 15th triple-double of the season.

## Bucks 129, Nets 125

In New York, Giannis Antetokounmpo scored 33 points in his final game before making his All-Star debut, Greg Monroe added 25 and Milwaukee sent Brooklyn Nets to the break on a 14-game skid.

Khris Middleton finished with 20 points in his strongest game since returning from a ruptured left hamstring that forced him to miss the first 50 games. Monroe was 12 for 16 from the field after going 12 for 15 on Monday in a victory over Detroit.

Brook Lopez scored a season-high 36 points for the Nets.

## Timberwolves 112, Nuggets 99

In Denver, Andrew Wiggins scored 40 points and Karl-Anthony Towns added 24 points and 18 rebounds in Minnesota's victory over Denver.

Wiggins' second 40-plus game in 24 hours helped the Timberwolves split the season series.

The Nuggets went cold 48 hours after blowing out Golden State behind an NBA record-tying 24 3-pointers on 40 tries. They made just 11 of 34 from long range this time, and Nikola Jokic shot just 6 of 19 from the floor for 15 hard-earned points.

## Suns 137, Lakers 101

In Phoenix, Eric Bledsoe had his third career triple-double, the first for a Phoenix player since November 2015, and the Suns routed Los Angeles.

Bledsoe got his 10th rebound with 6:06 to go and exited shortly after, finishing with 25 points and a season high-tying 13 assists. Devin Booker scored 23 points.

Lou Williams and D'Angelo Russell led Los Angeles with 21 points apiece.

## Raptors 90, Hornets 85

In Toronto, Kyle Lowry scored 21 points and Toronto overcame a 17-point fourth-quarter deficit to beat Charlotte.

Norman Powell had 17 points and Jonas Valanciunas added 10 points and 11 rebounds for Raptors. Frank Kaminsky had 27 points, and Kemba Walker added 24 points and nine assists for Charlotte.

## Spurs 107, Magic 79

In Orlando, Florida, LaMar-

Oklahoma City Thunder guard Russell Westbrook (0) goes up for a dunk in front of New York Knicks forward Kristaps Porzingis (6) during the fourth quarter of an NBA basketball game in Oklahoma City, Wednesday, Feb. 15, 2017.

cus Aldridge scored 23 points and Kawhi Leonard added 22, leading San Antonio past short-handed Orlando.

Orlando was down a key player after newly acquired swingman Terrence Ross was unable to suit up because Serge Ibaka didn't complete his physical in time in Toronto. The Magic sent Ibaka to Toronto for Ross and a first-round draft pick Tuesday.

Nikola Vucevic led Orlando with 16 points and 10 rebounds.

## Pelicans 95, Grizzlies 91

In Memphis, Tennessee, Solomon Hill scored a season-high 23 points and Anthony Davis added 18, including a key basket with 38.8 seconds left that helped New Orleans hold off Memphis.

Jrue Holiday had 19 points and seven assists for New Orleans. Alexis Ajinca added 12 points and a season-high 10 rebounds. Mike Conley led the Grizzlies with 17 points.

## Pistons 98, Mavericks 91

In Auburn Hills, Michigan, Reggie Jackson scored 22 points, Jon Leuer added 20 and Detroit beat Dallas.

Kentavious Caldwell-Pope had 16 points, and Tobias Harris 13. Dirk Nowitzki had 13 of his 24 points in the third quarter to help the Mavericks rally.

## Jazz 111, Trail Blazers 88

In Salt Lake City, Gordon Hayward scored 22 points and George Hill added 19 for Utah.

Joe Ingles had 18 points for the Jazz, and Rudy Gobert had 13 points and 12 rebounds. CJ McCollum had 18 points for Portland.

## Clippers 99, Hawks 84

In Los Angeles, Blake Griffin scored 17 points and the Los Angeles Clippers beat the Atlanta Hawks to head into the All-Star break on a four-game winning streak.

J.J. Redick added 15 points, Austin Rivers had 13 and All-Star DeAndre Jordan had 16 rebounds to help the Clippers beat the Hawks at home for the first time since March 8, 2014.

Dennis Schroder led Atlanta with 15 points, and Dwight Howard had 11 points and 15 rebounds.

## Pelicans' Davis relishing chance to play All-Star host

**NEW ORLEANS** (AP)—Anthony Davis is tiring of the narrative that his pro basketball career would be better served if he played somewhere other than New Orleans.

During All-Star weekend, the face of the Pelicans franchise will have a chance to exhibit why building a winner in the Big Easy matters to him. And if his enthusiasm for his adopted hometown proves contagious among some of the elite talent gathering in the NBA's Gulf South outpost, all the better for the "Brow."

"I was definitely excited for All-Star to come to New Orleans again; New Orleans is a fun place," said Davis, who was a second-year pro and first-time All-Star when the NBA's annual marquee event last came to the city in 2014. "It will be a good chance for

other players to experience our city, the culture in New Orleans with Mardi Gras and all, and see why we feel New Orleans is one the best places to play basketball as far as the fan base that we have and the culture of the city and everything like that."

The All-Star game wasn't supposed to return to New Orleans quite this quickly, but the league pulled the game Charlotte earlier this year because of a North Carolina state law that limits protections of LGBT people.

But this All-Star weekend will be different for Davis than his first, when he was still getting comfortable with pro basketball and life in New Orleans. Davis, nicknamed "the Unibrow" since his college days at Kentucky, was a Western Conference reserve in 2014. Now he's among the most popular players in the

world and an All-Star starter boasting gaudy statistics of nearly 28 points and 12 rebounds per game—not to mention season highs of 50 points, 22 rebounds and six blocks.

What Davis needs now is more help. The Pelicans missed the playoffs in three of his first four pro seasons, and their postseason prospects are in doubt again. Entering Wednesday night's action, New Orleans was 12 games below .500 and 3 1/2 games out of the final playoff spot in the Western Conference.

While Davis doesn't expect to spend the whole weekend recruiting, he acknowledged that playing host to the NBA's elite gives him an opportunity to help them envision what it might be like if, via a trade or free agency, they wound up joining him.

"There definitely is a

time for that," Davis said. "The main focus is for everybody to just go out there and have fun."

Davis was pleased that this year's All-Star festivities coincide with Mardi Gras. Normally, the NBA schedule takes the Pelicans away from New Orleans during most of pre-Lenten Carnival, which draws millions of tourists to New Orleans for rollicking festivities centered on parades and balls.

"I'm excited to actually be in town," Davis said.

Then there's the food. Davis expects to double as a restaurant guide this week. Growing up in Chicago, Davis was all about pizza, which he still eats when he goes home. But in New Orleans, he's refined his palette, sampling the city's renowned creole cuisine and fresh Gulf seafood.



# Champion Cubs get started with fanfare, big expectations



**MESA, Ariz.** (AP)—Back home in Las Vegas this winter, Kris Bryant finally understood just how much the Cubs championship meant far beyond the Windy City.

He felt the constant love from fans just by seeing people in the streets wearing Chicago gear. Or when many recognized him and offered congratulations for his huge part in the franchise's first title in 108 years.

He's hard to miss at 6-foot-5, too.

"I didn't really realize how many fans we had around the country and I really got a sense of that this year," Bryant said Wednesday, when the World Series champs held their first pitchers and catchers workout of spring. "It was kind of hard

to even go places in my hometown. I was just seeing Cubs hats everywhere driving my car down the road or guys running in a Cubs hat. I'm like, 'This is crazy.' It really shows what we did, and it's something that we can be proud of."

Jake Arrieta gets it. He experienced the same thing, and he can't always hide behind his signature bushy brown beard.

"Kris can't go anywhere without getting recognized," Arrieta quipped. "He's got beautiful hair and being 6-foot-6 it's a little hard to stay hidden for him. But the beard for me kind of gives me away. I was able to fly under the radar for a couple weeks without facial hair but it came back pretty quickly."

Now that this group has its banners and baseball's brag-



ging rights until a new winner is crowned next fall, the Cubs want to do it again. Keep flying that W in Wrigleyville.

No doubt the fanfare has

reached the Arizona desert, where the Cubs were a main attraction in Mesa when they formally began 2017.

Around Sloan Park and

the club's adjacent training complex, there are signs of winning: Large decorative baseballs declaring "2016 World Series Champions" and banners hanging from light posts that read "2016 World Champs."

Manager Joe Maddon has a firm but good-natured message. He is encouraging the Cubs to stay "uncomfortable," to keep pushing. He absolutely believes the "psychological crap" he speaks of matters greatly.

"The hangover component, I already started talking about it today not using the word hangover, but just addressing the method by which we're going to be able to get back there and do it again," Maddon said. "It's important that we, staff, manager, deliver the message but then the peer group delivers the message also that we don't stand or put up with anything less than that same kind of attitude that got us there. Having said all that, one of the main components of us getting there is we have fun here, and I want us to continue to have fun."

Bryant has repeatedly re-

Chicago Cubs players make their way to a field during a spring training baseball workout Tuesday, Feb. 14, 2017, in Mesa, Ariz.

watched the jaw-dropping 8-7, 10-inning Game 7 win against Cleveland and also a film on the Cubs ending their drought at long last.

"Oh, yeah. I'll be watching that for the rest of my life," he said. "Going through what we did last year and winning the whole thing it just makes you want to go through it all over again. Playing in the Game 7, that's the most stressful game you can probably play in in sports. I think all our nerves heading into this year are pretty calm that we played in one of the most stressful games in the history of this game. I think we'll be fine."

Arrieta's spring start was immediately a success.

"I'm glad to have the blood test done. I didn't pass out this year, which was nice," the ace right-hander said.

He loves the energy surrounding the team from every angle.

"You get the goosebumps and the positive nervous anxiety to start another year," Arrieta said. "The appreciation from the fans all across the country continues to pour in and that's a really good feeling. There's support in California to Florida, where I'm at in Texas. I'll randomly get, people will walk up and I'll get a pat on the back from lifelong Cubs fans or people that just had an appreciation for what we were able to do and just like to come up and say hello. It feels great to say you're a world champion, but to be able to try and repeat and do it all again would be a little bit more special for us."

## Arrieta hopeful of landing new contract to stay with Cubs

**MESA, Ariz.** (AP)—Jake Arrieta is hopeful of working out a new contract that would keep him with the Chicago Cubs before he becomes eligible for free agency after the 2017 season, yet he also realizes this could be his final year with the club if talks don't materialize.

The ace right-hander and 2015 NL Cy Young Award winner landed a one-year deal for \$15,637,500 last month to avoid salary arbitration. As the reigning World Series champions geared up for the first pitchers and catchers workout, Arrieta insisted Wednesday at the start of spring training that he won't allow his future to be a distraction.

"I think there's an open dialogue there and I believe we will have talks. It's not my

No. 1 priority," Arrieta said. "I just wanted to focus on my health and coming into camp as well rested and in as good of shape as I possibly can. If we have those conversations, we'll sit down and hash some things out and see if we can get something worked out. If it happens, great, if not then I'll continue to move forward and take it day by day."

He came to the Cubs in a trade from Baltimore in 2013 and helped them end a 108-year championship drought last fall.

The 30-year-old Arrieta followed up his 22-win Cy Young season by going 18-8 with a 3.10 ERA in 31 starts and 197 1/3 innings last season. He won Games 2 and 6 of the World Series as the Cubs beat the Cleveland Indians in the deciding Game 7.

Manager Joe Maddon has no concerns about Arrieta being ready and putting aside his own situation.

"Honestly it could be a positive for him and for us," Maddon said. "Obviously if you're in that year, you're really wanting to put your best foot forward to attract the best contract the next season. We had our meeting this morning with Jake. Again, I've said it all the time, but I'm always impressed with our guys when they walk out the door. He was just all about winning. He's all about making all of his starts, he's all about winning. He said he wants to make all of his starts for the guys in the other room. That's where his mind is at right now."

On Wednesday, Arrieta

opened boxes of new shoes and piles of fan mail at his locker before heading into meetings to get started at the Cubs' spring training complex.

"Time flies really quickly. It feels like only a few months ago that I was traded over here and started my career as a Cub in 2013," he said. "I've had some incredible experiences with this organization. I owe a lot to this team and this organization and the ownership. I don't want to see that time come to an end, my time as a Cub. Unfortunately the business side of the game shows its head every once in a while. But I still think there's opportunity and chances that we can have good conversations as far as an extension's concerned."



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From Page 32

Bill Sakovich, Kurt Barnes, Mike Villagomez, Jeff Race, Frank Castro, Tony Rogolifoi, Tony Satur, Francisco “Tan Ko” Palacios, Cecilia Lisua, Jose Tenorio Sablan, Ricardo Duenas, Antonio Benavente, and the late Jess Wabol and Irene Alpet.

Sakovich, now based in Florida and serves as head coach and aquatics director of Bolles School in Jacksonville, is the most successful swimmer raised in the CNMI, having represented the Commonwealth in various international competitions. He is so good that his national and age group marks made way back in the 1970s are still in the CNMI record books. He was a member of the Saipan Swim Club and after leaving the island and complet-

SAPONG  
From Page 32

outstanding performances in various competitions outside Saipan.

Lee was named the 2016 NMSA/Tan Siu Lin Foundation Female Student Athlete of the Year for dominating the Pacific Oceania Junior Championship and rising to the world rankings in the ITF Juniors Circuit.

The 15-year-old took both the girls U16 singles and doubles crowns in POJC in Fiji, making her the only player in the entire Pacific Oceania region to have won singles titles in three age groups (U12 and U14 in previous years). She also competed in several ITF Juniors tournaments, making her the highest-ranked female player in the Pacific Oceania at the end of the 2016 season. Early this month, Lee achieved her ranking at No. 341—the best ranking (male and female combined) in the region’s history.

Despite these accomplishments, Lee stays humble and vows to continue representing the Commonwealth well in international competitions.

“It’s a weird thing for me to win awards. I’m just really passionate about tennis and I work really hard to be better every day,” said Lee in a message to *Saipan Tribune* yesterday.

“But, I’m really grateful and honored to be recognized for my efforts,” added Lee, now a three-time winner of the Female Student Athlete of the Year award, having brought home the same plum in 2013 and 2015. Her family received her third trophy as she is in Fiji and getting ready to fly to New Delhi, India to represent Pacific Oceania in the Oceania Pre Qualifying Zone of the Junior Fed Cup.

Schorr is following Lee to

ing high school in Guam, he earned a scholarship from the University of Florida in Gainesville and got seven All-American honors while competing in NCAA from 1989 to 1992.

The 1990s was also the time Peter Camacho stood out in basketball and also did well in volleyball and softball. He became the youngest member of the CNMI Men’s National Team (at age 16) that competed in the 1990 Micronesian Games and still holds the record in the most points scored (104) in a single game. Camacho also suited up for the Commonwealth’s national teams in volleyball (1991 South Pacific Games) and softball (gold medal winner in 1999 South Pacific Games).

For his part, Rangamar was included on the CNMI Sports Hall of Fame for hav-

ing been a multi-titled coach of the Ol’Aces basketball team, a mentor to several NMSA Athletes of the Year awardees both in basketball and athletics, and a NMSA awardee himself. Rangamar was NMSA Coach of the Year in 2008, 2009, and 2014.

Taro—the lone female inductee in the Class of 2016—is recognized for her outstanding performance as a player and coach of slow-pitch and fast-pitch softball. She is mentioned in the same breath as CNMI softball greats Cecilia Lisua, Maggie Taitano-Olopai, and Emy Quitugua. Taro was involved in softball for nearly five decades, starting with her junior high playing years at Hopwood, which she led to multiple titles against senior teams from MHS and Mt. Carmel School. She was also a many-time member of the Com-

monwealth’s national squads. Taro missed the induction ceremony and her nephew Tyrone Omar received her award. Sakovich also could not attend yesterday’s event, but sent a video message to thank all the people and companies on Saipan and Guam who made his successful journey in swimming possible.

Rangamar and Camacho, on the other hand, personally received their awards and both were humbled to be in the company of players and coaches whom they used to watch when they were just starting to get involved in sports.

“I still have some playing years left and this award encourages me to work back and play,” Camacho said.

“I am very honored for this recognition and I will continue my commitment to train players,” Rangamar said.

Women’s Team placed third in the 4x100m and 4x400m relays.

“This is a great honor and I would like to thank my parents, coaches, the Northern Marianas Athletics board and the Oleai Sports Complex staff members for all their help during my training and competitions,” Sapong said.

Completing the roster of athlete-awardees in last night’s recognition ceremony was Saipan Paddling Club’s Joshua Andrew, who was selected the 2016 Male Athlete of the Year. Andrew earned NMSA’s nod for the annual plum after winning in the standup paddling competition and earning Top 3 finishes in the men’s and mixed canoe races in the Inaugural Timmy Would Go Memorial Paddle Classic.

“It’s my first time to win an award in NMSA so I am very thankful. This award will only inspire me to work harder and be consistent in training,” Andrew said.

TAN  
From Page 32

and beach soccer for all ages. These leagues are the best way to foster and nurture the growth of soccer in the local community. From 180 players in 2005, there are now over 1,000 soccer players on the island and Jerry is targeting to bring the number up to 3,000 in the next three years,” said Barnes, who incidentally was the recipient of the Administrator of the Year award in 2015.

NMSA’s voting members took Barnes’ words to heart and handed the 2016 Administrator of the Year to Tan as they also witnessed how the NMIFA head made significant developments in CNMI soccer in the last decade—particularly the acquisition of a lot in Koblerville that will soon house the Commonwealth’s first world-class soccer pitch and other facilities.

Humbled by the recognition, Tan said CNMI soccer’s successes in the last 11 years are products of a team effort.

“These did not happen only because of me, but because of the people and groups that have been helping NMIFA. I would like to share this award to our vice president Vickie Izuka, who

has been with us since 2005, the present and past Executive Committee members, club officials and coaches, the parents, volunteers, and referees. I would also like to recognize EAFF, AFC, JFA, and GFA for the support they have been giving us,” Tan said.

The NMIFA president has received numerous awards in the past, but he considers this one from NMSA special.

“It’s my favorite because it comes from sports. I love sports,” said Tan, adding that administrators of other groups also deserved recognition for the hard work they put in for their respective federations.

“I know that they are doing their very best to provide programs to their athletes so I would like to share this award to them, too,” he said.

The chairman of the 2021 Pacific Mini Games Oversight Committee at the same time challenged officials of the CNMI sports community to keep promoting athletics competition.

“Let us continue to provide opportunities for our athletes, especially for our youth. Help them improve their skills and continue to live a healthy lifestyle by actively participating in various sports.”

TRIBUNE SPORTS SCORES

NBA STANDINGS

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Atlantic Division

|              | W  | L  | Pct  | GB  |
|--------------|----|----|------|-----|
| Boston       | 37 | 19 | .661 | —   |
| Toronto      | 33 | 24 | .579 | 4½  |
| New York     | 23 | 34 | .404 | 14½ |
| Philadelphia | 21 | 35 | .375 | 16  |
| Brooklyn     | 9  | 47 | .161 | 28  |

Southeast Division

|            |    |    |      |    |
|------------|----|----|------|----|
| Washington | 33 | 21 | .611 | —  |
| Atlanta    | 32 | 24 | .571 | 2  |
| Miami      | 25 | 32 | .439 | 9½ |
| Charlotte  | 24 | 32 | .429 | 10 |
| Orlando    | 21 | 37 | .362 | 14 |

Central Division

|           |    |    |      |     |
|-----------|----|----|------|-----|
| Cleveland | 39 | 16 | .709 | —   |
| Indiana   | 29 | 27 | .518 | 10½ |
| Chicago   | 27 | 29 | .482 | 12½ |
| Detroit   | 27 | 30 | .474 | 13  |
| Milwaukee | 25 | 30 | .455 | 14  |

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Southwest Division

|             |    |    |      |     |
|-------------|----|----|------|-----|
| San Antonio | 43 | 13 | .768 | —   |
| Houston     | 40 | 18 | .690 | 4   |
| Memphis     | 34 | 24 | .586 | 10  |
| New Orleans | 23 | 34 | .404 | 20½ |
| Dallas      | 22 | 34 | .393 | 21  |

Northwest Division

|               |    |    |      |     |
|---------------|----|----|------|-----|
| Utah          | 35 | 22 | .614 | —   |
| Oklahoma City | 32 | 25 | .561 | 3   |
| Denver        | 25 | 31 | .446 | 9½  |
| Portland      | 23 | 33 | .411 | 11½ |
| Minnesota     | 22 | 35 | .386 | 13  |

Pacific Division

|               |    |    |      |     |
|---------------|----|----|------|-----|
| Golden State  | 47 | 9  | .839 | —   |
| L.A. Clippers | 35 | 21 | .625 | 12  |
| Sacramento    | 24 | 33 | .421 | 23½ |
| L.A. Lakers   | 19 | 39 | .328 | 29  |
| Phoenix       | 18 | 39 | .316 | 29½ |

NBA LEADERS

Scoring

|                    | G  | FG  | FT  | PTS  | AVG  |
|--------------------|----|-----|-----|------|------|
| Westbrook, OKC     | 56 | 562 | 488 | 1733 | 30.9 |
| Thomas, BOS        | 51 | 475 | 407 | 1521 | 29.8 |
| Harden, HOU        | 57 | 473 | 529 | 1657 | 29.1 |
| Cousins, SAC       | 54 | 499 | 423 | 1515 | 28.1 |
| Davis, NOR         | 52 | 529 | 367 | 1451 | 27.9 |
| DeRozan, TOR       | 49 | 486 | 364 | 1355 | 27.7 |
| Lillard, POR       | 50 | 424 | 322 | 1298 | 26.0 |
| Leonard, SAN       | 50 | 431 | 334 | 1297 | 25.9 |
| Durant, GOL        | 55 | 502 | 311 | 1421 | 25.8 |
| James, CLE         | 51 | 491 | 245 | 1314 | 25.8 |
| Curry, GOL         | 54 | 452 | 225 | 1347 | 24.9 |
| Irving, CLE        | 48 | 437 | 183 | 1172 | 24.4 |
| Butler, CHI        | 50 | 372 | 417 | 1218 | 24.4 |
| Towns, MIN         | 56 | 510 | 243 | 1327 | 23.7 |
| McCollum, POR      | 55 | 484 | 189 | 1293 | 23.5 |
| Anthony, NYK       | 55 | 463 | 237 | 1278 | 23.2 |
| Antetokounmpo, MIL | 53 | 442 | 306 | 1228 | 23.2 |
| Wiggins, MIN       | 56 | 474 | 264 | 1282 | 22.9 |
| Wall, WAS          | 52 | 432 | 268 | 1189 | 22.9 |
| Lowry, TOR         | 55 | 395 | 283 | 1254 | 22.8 |

FG Percentage

|             | FG  | FGA | PCT  |
|-------------|-----|-----|------|
| Jordan, LAC | 263 | 379 | .694 |
| Howard, ATL | 265 | 411 | .645 |
| Capela, HOU | 224 | 348 | .644 |
| Gobert, UTA | 254 | 398 | .638 |
| Gortat, WAS | 285 | 478 | .596 |
| Jokic, DEN  | 315 | 534 | .590 |

Rebounds

|                | G  | OFF | DEF | TOT | AVG  |
|----------------|----|-----|-----|-----|------|
| Whiteside, MIA | 51 | 182 | 536 | 718 | 14.1 |
| Drummond, DET  | 55 | 225 | 536 | 761 | 13.8 |
| Jordan, LAC    | 55 | 194 | 560 | 754 | 13.7 |
| Howard, ATL    | 50 | 212 | 434 | 646 | 12.9 |
| Gobert, UTA    | 56 | 217 | 492 | 709 | 12.7 |
| Davis, NOR     | 52 | 118 | 507 | 625 | 12.0 |
| Towns, MIN     | 56 | 193 | 463 | 656 | 11.7 |
| Gortat, WAS    | 54 | 176 | 444 | 620 | 11.5 |
| Chandler, PHX  | 46 | 152 | 376 | 528 | 11.5 |
| Love, CLE      | 46 | 115 | 395 | 510 | 11.1 |

Assists

|                | G  | AST | AVG  |
|----------------|----|-----|------|
| Harden, HOU    | 57 | 642 | 11.3 |
| Wall, WAS      | 52 | 551 | 10.6 |
| Westbrook, OKC | 56 | 565 | 10.1 |
| James, CLE     | 51 | 454 | 8.9  |
| Rubio, MIN     | 50 | 424 | 8.5  |
| Teague, IND    | 55 | 446 | 8.1  |
| Holiday, NOR   | 41 | 306 | 7.5  |
| Green, GOL     | 52 | 383 | 7.4  |
| Lowry, TOR     | 55 | 380 | 6.9  |
| Williams, DAL  | 39 | 268 | 6.9  |

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Members of the Marianas Outrigger Canoe's men's team pose for a photo with their Team of the Year award during the 2016 Northern Marianas Sports Association Annual Banquet held last night at the Hibiscus Hall of the Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan.



# GPPC noses out CUC to keep streak

By **ROSELYN B. MONROYO**  
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REPORTER

GPPC escaped with a 84-82 win against the Commonwealth Utilities Corp. in the second game in the JEM Company Ltd./Mobil Customer Appreciation Basketball League last Wednesday at the Gillette Multipurpose Gymnasium.

Alex Ocampo hit the dagger off a feed from Randy Mungcal as GPPC stole the victory from CUC, which collapsed in the second half after leading by as much as 20 points early in the second quarter.

The game-winning basket came after CUC's Eugene Manglona threw an errant pass to Travis Spaeth and Bobby Sampang picked up the loose ball before giving the leather to Mungcal. The GPPC wingman then seemed headed for a fastbreak layup, but decided in

the last minute to pass to Ocampo, who was closer to the basket and canned the 8-footer with 4.5 seconds left in their Pool A duel.

CUC sued for time, but failed to convert in the last play as John Santos' turnaround jumper off an inbound pass from Iramk Simada hit the side of the board and although the former wrestled the ball from Mungcal after the miss, the buzzer had already sounded even before he pulled up for another shot.

Mungcal top-scored in GPPC's come-from-behind win with his 30 points, including the equalizer, which was a fastbreak layup off a series of helter-skelter plays between the two teams. Mungcal took off just a few steps past the 15-foot line and stretched for the game-tying shot.

Mungcal's layup made up

for GPPC's two earlier errors, with the last one CUC converted into a breakaway shot from Manglona for an 82-80 lead. CUC could have led by more as it opened the last three minutes of the match with a 76-71 advantage off Simada's 5 straight points. However, the team missed several free throws down the stretch and then made one miscue after another in the final canto, giving GPPC the chance to recover.

It was a sorry loss for CUC, as it once enjoyed a 39-19 spread in the opening minutes of the second quarter. After the big lead, CUC (3-2) started to fold up, while Mungcal and Ocampo teamed up in bringing GPPC (3-2) back into the game and eventually helped their squad grab the upper hand at the break, 45-44. Mungcal fired 14 points in the second canto, while Ocampo chipped in 8.

It was a close match after that with the game back to square one at the end of the third period, 64-all, while the opposing teams went back and forth in the fourth, but neither moved up by more than 5 markers.

Meanwhile, Top Development, Inc. gave Star Water a rude welcome in the league by pouncing on the debuting squad, 88-65.



Raymond Velasco scored 34 points, while Krizgel Arreza chipped in 24 to lift TDI to the easy win over Star

Water, which played only its first game in the league as it entered the competition a bit late and had to wait for its uni-

forms. With Velasco and Arreza on target, TDI (4-2) led right from the get-go and never looked back for their fourth win in six games in Pool B.

## First Game

**TDI 88** – Velasco 34, K. Arreza 24, A. Reyes 12, J. Reyes 10, Ibarra 4, Pollisco 2, Barrios 2.

**Star Water 65** – Galardo 21, Santos 12, Dizon 8, Quiban 6, Gaius 4, Ombao 3, Rojas 2.

**Scoring by quarters:** 24-12, 45-30, 67-50, 88-65.

## Second Game

**GPPC 84** – Mungcal 30, Ocampo 23, Santos 10, Norial 7, Sampang 6, A. Tagle 4, Lagura 2, Bandojo 2.

**CUC 82** – Manglona 31, Simada 12, Santos 10, Kaipat 9, Spaeth 9, Pestillos 7, Poquiz 2, Lieto 2.

**Scoring by quarters:** 18-31, 45-44, 64-64, 84-82.

## SBL kicks off 2017 season Monday



ROSELYN B. MONROYO

BSI Aces catcher Virgil Secharmidal throws to pitcher Mike Iguel after catching a fly ball during Game 1 of their semis series against the GSM Brewers in last year's Saipan Baseball League at the Francisco "Tan Ko" Palacios Baseball Field.

The 2017 SBL season kicks off Monday, Feb. 20, at the Francisco M. Palacios "Tan Ko" Baseball Field at 6:30pm with defending champions and pennant winners CK Bears squaring off against last year's runners-up BSI Aces.

Like last year, eight teams will be vying for the championship with the Falcons, GSM, Titanium, Blue Jays, D-9ers (formally the North Starz) and newcomers Comets joining the Bears and BSI Aces in the field.

A double-round-robin format will be utilized in the regular season with games to be played from Monday to Friday. The Top 4 teams will

advance to the playoffs and they will play in best-of-three semis series. The winners will then collide in a best-of-five championship affair.

At the conclusion of the SBL, members of the national and junior national teams will be selected to represent the CNMI in the second Micronesian Baseball Classic that will be held in Palau this June.

The SBL is looking for corporate sponsors to help defray some of the league's expenses and humbly solicits from interested parties. For more information, contact SBL league director Tony Rogolifo at 234-6672 or 285-3966. (PR)

## Tsunami Saipan, Dolphin Club swimmers join short course meet

By **ROSELYN B. MONROYO**  
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REPORTER

Tsunami Saipan held a short course meet last Saturday with the host club's swimmers racing against members of the Dolphin Club Saipan at the Kan Pacific Swimming Pool.

The weekend competition featured three events—20m kickboard race, 50m style 1 (swimmers do the stroke they love), 20m backstroke, 20m breaststroke, 80m individual medley, and 20m freestyle.

In the first event—the 20m kickboard—10-year-old Ashley Dangol posted the fastest time with her 12.22 seconds. Joining Ashley in the Top 10 (best times) were fellow Tsunami Saipan swimmers Isaiah Aleksenko (13.15 seconds), Aika Watanabe (14.78), Nelson Batallones (15.04), Aasish Dangol (15.14), Juhn Tenorio (15.28), Sophia Gauran (15.40), Anthony Camacho-Deleon Guerrero (15.49), Angel De Jesus (15.55), Joseph Zhang (15.71), and Nanaka Watanabe (15.87).

Thirty-seven other swimmers did the 20m kickboard event with majority of them enrolled in Tsunami Saipan's beginners class, while Abigail Perez had the best time among Dolphin Club Saipan members after registering 20.09 seconds.

In the 50m Style 1, De Jesus did the freestyle and came out on top 22-swimmer field after logging 23.82 seconds. Aleksenko and Gauran also swam freestyle and timed in at 24.14 and 24.74 seconds, respectively, while Nelson Batallones was the fastest in butterfly (25.06 seconds). Tenorio got the best time in backstroke (26.55), while Nanaka Watanabe had the same feat in the breaststroke (31.77).

In the 20m backstroke, 35 swimmers completed the race with Dal Illahi leading the pack after recording 17.25 seconds. Kevin Guerrero (17.69) and Kean Pajarillaga

(18.05) rounded out the Top 3, while Perez was again the fastest among Dolphin Club Saipan swimmers after checking in at 22.98 seconds.

Illahi also ruled the 20m breaststroke after clocking in at 17.50 seconds. He was the lone swimmer to finish the race under 18 seconds as Guerrero and Pajarillaga registered 18.79 and 21.37 seconds. Fifteen other swimmers completed the 20m breaststroke race.

In the 80m IM, only two swimmers wrapped up the event in less than a minute with Tenorio the first one after posting 58.25 seconds and De Jesus the second with her 59.53. Batallones was



ranked third after touching the wall at the 1:00.01 mark.

For the last event—the 20m freestyle—Dan Illahi got his third win against Guerrero and Pajarilla. Illahi's 13.69 edged the 13.98 of Guerrero and 14.73 of Pajarillaga. Gemmilie Eugenio was the fastest among Dolphin Club Saipan members who joined the final race after registering 17.22 seconds. Twenty-nine others completed the final event of the short course meet that aimed at helping upcoming swimmers prepare for much competitive races.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Tsunami Swimming Center Saipan and Dolphin Club Saipan swimmers and volunteers pose for a photo after the races in last Saturday's short course meet at the Kan Pacific Swimming Pool.





Westbrook scores  
38 in triple-double  
as Thunder top  
Knicks

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# Saipan Tribune Sports

Champion Cubs  
get started with  
fanfare, big  
expectations

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SAIPAN TRIBUNE



ROSELYN B. MONROYO

From left, Carol Lee's sister, Robbie Schorr, Joshua Andrew, and Zarinae Sapong pose with their awards and life-sized cutouts during the 2016 Northern Marianas Sports Association Annual Banquet held last night at the Hibiscus Hall of the Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan.

## Sapong, Andrew win Athlete of the Year plums

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO  
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REPORTER

If bringing honor to the CNMI through their successes in off-island tournaments is not enough proof that they deserved recognition, I don't know what else is.



Tennis' Carol Lee and Robbie Schorr, athletics' Zarinae Sapong, and Marianas Outrigger Canoe's Men's Team's received the major awards in the 2016 Northern Marianas

» **Lee, Schorr take student awards**

Sports Association Annual Banquet held last night at the Hibiscus Hall of the Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan for their

**See SAPONG on Page 30**



ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Northern Mariana Islands Football Association president Jerry Tan receives the 2016 Administrator of the Year award.

## Tan named Administrator of the Year

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO  
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REPORTER

CNMI Hall of Famer Kurt Barnes summed it up perfectly in his nomination of Northern Mariana Islands Football Association president Jerry Tan for the 2016 Administrator of the Year award. The latter earned the prestigious award.

"More than 10 years ago Jerry saw the need to bring international soccer to Saipan. His vision was one that would provide an opportunity for the CNMI to

participate in world class soccer, secure a world class facility, provide soccer leagues for both genders in all age groups, and gain membership to the Federation of International Football Association. Jerry is achieving or well on his way of achieving these goals," Barnes stated in his nomination letter.

"Under Jerry's leadership, NMIFA organizes regular and year-round leagues, including outdoor, futsal,

**See TAN on Page 30**

## 4 inducted to CNMI Sports Hall of Fame



ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Elias Rangamar, left, and Peter Camacho are two of the four newest members of the CNMI Sports Hall of Fame as they were inducted to the elite group last night during the 2016 Northern Marianas Sports Association Annual Banquet held at the Hibiscus Hall of the Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan.

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO  
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REPORTER

The CNMI Sports Hall of Fame welcomed four new members to its elite club during last night's 2016 Northern Marianas Sports Association Annual Banquet held at the Hibiscus Hall of the Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan.

Olympian Jon Sakovich led the Class of 2016 and was joined by coach Elias Rangamar and players Peter Camacho and Joyce Taro. They are now in the select company of Frank "Sonny" Flores, Tony C. Camacho, Max Pangelinan, Michael White, Emy Quitugua, Mel Sakisat Sr., Bertha Chong, Tony Ichiou, Jean and

**See 4 on Page 30**